

Arthur Miall  
18 Bowdler St. E.C.

THE

# Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 947.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.  
          STAMPED ..... 1d.

## SHREWSBURY CHURCH-RATE CASE.

The SUBSCRIPTIONS in support of the above suit already received are as follows:—

Friends in Shrewsbury	£150	2	6
Joseph Pease, Esq.	5	0	0
Henry Pease, Esq., M.P.	5	0	0
William Edwards, Esq.	5	0	0
J. M. Courtland, Esq.	5	0	0
Sums under 5l.	17	13	6

This case has been in the Court of Arches for upwards of two years. On Friday last Dr. Lushington gave judgment against the defendant with costs. Acting under the highest legal advice, and confident of ultimate success, the defendant has entered an appeal against this judgment, and the case will now be brought before the Privy Council. The defendant's Committee earnestly appeal to the friends of religious equality for aid. Subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by James Phipps, Stock and Share Broker, Shrewsbury.

## PARIS CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL,

23, RUE ROYALE, NEAR THE MADELEINE.

Divine Service, Lord's Day, 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday Evenings at 7.30 p.m.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS received by

ROBERT ASHTON, Secretary.

Congregational Library.

## URGENT APPEAL.

## CONGREGATIONAL PASTORS' INSURANCE AID SOCIETY.

This Society was formed in 1853 to Aid Ministers in Paying their Annual Insurance Premiums. More than Fifty have been assisted. Thirty-five are now regularly receiving help, securing Annuities for their Widows to the gross value of nearly 1,000l. per annum. Others are waiting to receive Aid. The Committee have just been obliged to refuse Three out of Four fresh applications only from want of Funds.

Subscriptions or donations are earnestly solicited, and may be forwarded to the Secretary, No. 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, E.C.

JOHN CHURCHILL, Treasurer.

HENRY BROMLEY, Honorary Secretary.

## APPEAL on BEHALF of the POOR and AFFLICTED WIDOWS of the MINISTERS of the THREE DENOMINATIONS.

The MANAGERS of the WIDOWS' FUND regret that they shall be compelled to give only diminished relief to new cases of distress, however urgent, unless they receive additional public support. At present, they give Annual Grants to 262 cases, and to the amount of 2,570l. They trust that this Appeal will meet with a liberal and prompt response from those who sympathise with Christian Widows in their affliction.

Subscriptions and Donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, Wm. Edwards, Esq., 67, St. Paul's, London, E.C.; by Messrs. Olding and Co., 29, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.; by Mr. C. T. Jones, Secretary, Chamber of London, Guildhall, E.C.; and by Mr. Charles Gordelier, Collector, 13, Stepney-green, E.

CHARLES THEODORE JONES, Secretary.

## SPECIAL APPEAL.

The COMMITTEE of the UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL make an urgent APPEAL to the Public for INCREASED FUNDS. They spend annually about 7,000l., and they receive in Annual Subscriptions less than 1,000l. In spite of strenuous special efforts there is a large annual deficit. Already the relief afforded is considerably below the capacity of the Hospital, and the Committee are most anxious that its usefulness shall not be still further impaired by want of public support. They appeal to the benevolent for a share of the gifts which distinguish this season for several reasons:—

1. Their great need of aid.
2. The great comfort of the sick wards.
3. The excellence of the nursing.
4. The eminence of the medical officers.
5. The immense population which surrounds the Hospital.
6. The danger of depriving the poor of that population of some of the relief now afforded. A subscription to an hospital is not only an act of benevolence, but the payment of a debt, as the eminent skill of the Physicians and Surgeons of the wealthy is due in very large measure to the opportunities of thorough study which these institutions have afforded.

BANKERS TO THE HOSPITAL:

Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Scott and Co., Cavendish-square; Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co., Lombard-street; and London and Westminster Bank, Holborn.

## FIELD-LANE REFUGES for the HOMELESS POOR.

President—Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, K.G.

In consequence of the Distress in Lancashire, the income of this Institution has fallen far short of the Expenditure during the past two years. Funds are therefore now greatly needed, and will be most thankfully received by the Bankers, Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., Pall-mall East; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Lombard-street; T. Circuit, Esq., 19, West Smithfield, E.C.; or by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Samuel Tawell, 31, St. Paul's-churchyard, E.C.

## HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET.

This Institution is still the only Hospital in the Metropolis specially set apart for the Reception of Sick Children.

FUNDS are urgently needed for its support.

F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

December, 1863.

BANKERS:

Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs. Herries.

## ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN,

REEDHAM, near CROYDON (late at Stamford-hill.)  
The ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of this Charity will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on TUESDAY, 16th February, 18 4.

The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR has kindly consented to preside, supported by the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

The Lists of Stewards will be published in a few days.

The CHRISTMAS ELECTION will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on MONDAY, 18th January, 1864, for the purpose of admitting Fifteen Children (Nine Boys and Six Girls) into the Asylum.

Subscriptions are earnestly solicited.

THOS. W. AVELING, Hon. Sec.

All communications, &c., to be addressed to Mr. George Standish, Secretary, at the Office, 10, Poultry, E.C.

## ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL,

MAITLAND PARK, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, N.W.

A SPECIAL GENERAL COURT of GOVERNORS will be held at the LONDON COFFEE HOUSE, LUDGATE-HILL, on FRIDAY, January 1st, 1864, for the ELECTION of a TREASURER, in place of the late Thomas Merriman Coombs, Esq., V.P.

The Chair will be taken at Eleven o'clock precisely, by the President, JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., M.P.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

December 15, 1863.

## ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL,

MAITLAND PARK, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, N.W.

Instituted May 10, 1758, for Children of Both Sexes, and from every part of the Kingdom.

SEVENTY ORPHAN CHILDREN will be ADMITTED into the above Institution during the year 1864.

Forms to fill up may be obtained of the Secretary. The application should be accompanied by a stamped envelope containing the name and address of the person requiring the information.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

32, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

## SCHOOL SHIP.—THE THAMES MARINE OFFICERS' TRAINING-SHIP WORCESTER, moored off Erith, is managed by a Committee of London Shipowners, Merchants, and Captains.

CHAIRMAN—HENRY GREEN, Esq., Blackwall, E.

VICE-CHAIRMAN—C. H. Chambers, Esq., 4, Mincing-lane, E.C.

TREASURER—Stephen Cave, Esq., M.P., 35, Wilton-place, S.W.

Respectable BOYS, from the age of Twelve to Fifteen, intended for the SEA, are Received on Board, and thoroughly EDUCATED for a SEAFARING LIFE. Terms of Admission, Thirty-five Guineas per Annum.

Forms and Prospectuses can be obtained on application to

W. M. BULLIVANT, Hon. Sec.,  
19, London-street, E.C.

## THE TONIC SOLFA METHOD of TEACHING to SING.

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School will reopen January 22nd.

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Prospectuses may be obtained by application to the Principal, or to the Secretary, Rev. J. S. Underwood.

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Terms, 20l. per annum. Circulars at Messrs. Mead and Powell's, 73, Cheapside.

N.B.—Preparatory Department at Forest Hill.

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The Course of Instruction includes the various branches of an English and Classical Education, together with careful Moral and Religious Training. The Residence is well situated in the outskirts of the town, and the Health and Comfort of the Pupils are specially consulted in the Domestic Arrangement.

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Prospectuses on application.

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## EDUCATION IN SCARBOROUGH. HADDO - TERRACE SCHOOL.

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For Mathematics and History—J. T. SINTON, M.A.  
For French—Miss CAMILLE HABTZER.  
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## TETTENHALL PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, near WOLVERHAMPTON (MIDLAND COUNTIES PROPRIETARY SCHOOL COMPANY, LIMITED).

Head Master—Rev. ROBERT HALLEY, M.A.  
The next Session will commence on MONDAY, the 25th January. Applications for admission should be addressed to the Head Master, who will supply any information that may be required.  
Terms, for Pupils entering under Fourteen years of age, Forty Guineas; for Pupils entering above Fourteen years of age, Fifty Guineas.  
The School is situated in a healthy locality at Tettenhall, on the Shrewsbury and Holyhead Road, quite away from the mining districts.  
For full Prospectus see "Congregational Year Book" or "Baptist Hand Book."

## COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Tradesmen and Farmers.

Mr. VERNY is assisted by experienced resident Teachers—English and Foreign. The Pupils are carefully trained in good habits, and fitted for active Business Pursuits. The premises are extensive, and contain every convenience; the situation is high and healthy; the food is of the best description and unlimited; and the terms are moderate.  
A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

1, PARAGON, BLACKHEATH, S.E.

## THE Misses HADLEY beg to announce that they continue to RECEIVE FIFTEEN YOUNG LADIES for the purpose of EDUCATION.

They are assisted by Masters of long standing, and by a Resident Foreign Governess; but as they carry on the work of General Instruction themselves, each Pupil is under their own immediate and constant superintendence.

While attending to the Moral and Intellectual Culture of those committed to their care, the Misses Hadley endeavour at the same time to secure, by all possible means, the Health and Comfort of their Young Friends, and their efforts in these respects are greatly facilitated by the healthiness of Blackheath and the commodiousness of their Residence.

Reference is kindly permitted to W. Smith, Esq., LL.D., Avenue-road, Regent's-park; Rev. J. Beazley, Blackheath; Rev. R. H. Marten, B.A., Lee, Kent; Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., Kilburn; Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., Bishops Stortford; Rev. W. H. Dyer, Bath.

## HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, THAME, near OXFORD.

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\* \* \* References to the Rev. C. Vince, Birmingham; the Rev. I. Duxsey, Edmonton; W. Johnson, Esq., Banbury; and Parents in all the midland counties.

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## EDUCATION.—SOUTH COAST.

### HEATHFIELD HOUSE—ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG GENTLEMEN,

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The Terms for the Sons of Laymen are Thirty Guineas per annum.

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TRADE MARK,



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Address, G. G., Post-office, Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

TO SCHOOL ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a GENTLEMAN of experience. Good Writing and Effective Discipline indispensable. All other attainments, especially good Pencil Drawing, will be appreciated. Apply to Mr. Uwins, Rayleigh, Essex.

WANTED, in a BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT. A young man well grounded in elementary studies, but anxious for improvement, would find this an advantageous position. Apply, X. Y. Z., Mr. King's, Bookseller, Halifax.

WANTED, at CRANFORD HALL SCHOOL, near HOUNSLOW, Middlesex, a respectable FEMALE SERVANT, to take Charge of the Pupils' Apparel, their Bedrooms, &c. Apply to Mr. George Verney.

WANTED, by a Member of a Congregational Church, a SITUATION as HOUSEKEEPER in a Small Family, or as COMPANION to a LADY. References will be given and expected. Address, A. B., Great Chishill, near Royston, Herts.

WANTED, in a respectable Country House, a BONNET MILLINER, one who has a thorough knowledge of the business, and can superintend a work-room. Apply to Dingley and Sons, Sherborne.

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Mrs. Hunt, 225, Oxford-street, W.

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Contributions to the Brixton Asylum, now finished, will be thankfully received.

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CAPITAL, £1,000,000.

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THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

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Please observe and copy the address.



# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 947.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.  
STAMPED..... 6d.

## CONTENTS.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	The Ex-Mayor of Hall-	1033
"Sleep no More" .....	fax .....	1033
Eccelesiastical Notes .....	Postscript .....	1033
Meetings of the Libera-	LEADING ARTICLES:	
tion Society .....	Summary .....	1034
The Press and the Elec-	The Presidential Mes-	
toral Policy of the	sages .....	1034
Liberation Society .....	Mr. Cobden and the	
The Bishop of Oxford's	Times .....	1035
Charge and the Dis-	The Liberal Party .....	1035
senters .....	The Family Circle .....	1036
Church-rates in the	University of London .....	1039
Parishes .....	Court, Official, and Per-	
The Clergy and the	sonal News .....	1039
Barial Question .....	LITERATURE:	
Religious Intelligence .....	Bayard Taylor's Ame-	
CORRESPONDENCE:	rican Novel .....	1040
"The Party of Order" .....	The Laureate and Clas-	
"The Congregational	sical Metres .....	1040
Year-book" .....	Gift-books for the	
The Transportation Que-	Young .....	1041
stion in Australia .....	Brief Notices .....	1041
Meetings of the Liberal	Almanacs, &c. ....	1042
Party .....	Literature and Art .....	1042
Crawley Court-martial .....	Poetry .....	1042
The Standing Armies of	Miscellaneous News .....	1042
Europe .....	Gleanings .....	1042

## Eccelesiastical Affairs.

### "SLEEP NO MORE!"

WE know not that the new electoral policy of the Liberation Society requires further vindication in these columns—fuller or more precise explanation of it than that given by the Memorandum of the Executive Committee, it will hardly admit of. Our readers, we think, will agree with us in the conclusion that a clear, unmistakable statement of what it is which the Committee have been charged to undertake, is the only defence of the proposal which reasonable minds will demand. It bears its apology, if it needed one, upon its very front. Wherever it can show itself, it will win for itself due respect. Supposing it to have become correctly understood at last, it is a matter of no immediate moment to determine how it chanced to be misapprehended in the first instance. Our own impression is that if they whose earlier misconceptions have been set aside by subsequent information would take the trouble to read over, by the light of their better knowledge, the first public utterances of the Committee on the subject, they will admit that the obscurity in which those utterances have been enveloped must have arisen from causes outside of themselves. In some cases, possibly, the proposed electoral action has been looked at through the medium of a depressed political tone of feeling, and a sort of swimming in the head, a common consequence of nervous debility, has interfered with clearness of vision. In some, it may be, the angry excitement of partisan organs has shrouded the proposition in such a turbid atmosphere as to render first impressions untrue, and therefore alarming. Be this as it may, we are thankful that we have at length emerged from that region in which visions are so apt to pass for realities, into one of broader daylight, where reason is more likely than terror to give counsel to the judgment.

Well, looking at the policy as it now stands disclosed, we ask whether, on the hypothesis that it is judiciously brought into operation, it is calculated to work disadvantageously for the Liberal party. We agree that whatever may be the apparent identity of the existing programme, or no programme, of the Liberals with that of the Conservatives, there is, and must always be, in this constitutional country, a division of politicians based upon a real distinction of principles, and that underneath all apparent agreements and tacit coalitions, there is a party whose object is to advance from good to better, and a party who fear that any movement will be from good to worse. We admit also that it is a natural and wise course for the friends of religious equality to give their political friendship and co-operation to the party whose maxim is "as you should be," rather than to that whose maxim is "as you are." But we are not the

less firmly convinced that an obsequious acquiescence in every departure from their own principles by the party of progress is not the highest form which sincerest friendship can take. As in private life, so in public, rights and duties are often correlative—and the want of manliness which forbids all protestations against the exactions of self-indulgence furthers the very evil which it wishes to avoid. It is an injustice to spell-bound and sleepy Liberalism to let it sleep on and take its rest. It will have all the effect of deliberate treachery. Conservatism on the alert is sure to be more than a match for Liberalism giving way to slumber—and the roughest usage which aims at dispelling the lethargic influence of an opiate is really the kindest. We are convinced that it will be fatal to the Liberal party to go to the next General Election on the mere strength of what they have done, instead of on the strength of what they intend to do. Nothing can keep them from mouldering away into decrepitude, but an infusion into them of new life. The sleepiest of them may be angry at being disturbed—but those of them who are most awake will see it is the only chance of their salvation. Quite independently, therefore, of any advantage that may accrue to the cause of religious equality, and judging it only from its probable party consequences, the electoral action recommended by the Liberation Society, if kindly but firmly persevered in, will exert an invigorating influence upon enervated Liberalism, and brace up its system for more energetic, and therefore more successful effort.

It can conduce to no desirable result to place or to retain in political supremacy a party nominally only in favour of progress, but really intent upon keeping things as they are. It can only serve to foster self-delusion, and to suppress, if it do not destroy, all natural tendencies to a better state of things. We have a pretty confident persuasion that the real Liberalism of the country, if dealt with in a frank and friendly spirit, will not persistently refuse to fall in with the reasonable claim advanced by the Executive Committee. Practically considered, what does it amount to? In the extremest case, and in constituencies in which the friends of religious equality outnumber or, at any rate, equal the rest of the Liberal electors on the local register, it seeks no more than a fair moiety of the representation, and is ready to give as much as it takes. The policy is already carried out, and without the smallest inconvenience, at Northampton, at Leicester, at Bradford, and at several other boroughs in the North. Why should not the arrangement be adopted in every place in which the conditions hold good? What would the Liberal party lose by acquiescence in this equitable proposal? We suppose it will not be pretended that members who represent the general principles embodied in the Liberation Society will be thereby proved incapable of representing anything else. On all questions of political reform, of social amelioration, of economical or administrative improvement, it is quite as likely that the nominee of the more advanced ecclesiastical section will be fully as reliable a representative as the nominee of the more backward one. In cases, therefore, where the sections are pretty nearly equal, it is difficult to discover any valid objection to the proposed plan of electoral action, arising out of concern for the general objects of the Liberal party.

But in constituencies wherein the friends of religious equality are a minority of the Liberal electors, what is likely to be their claim upon the party of progress? If the minority be a large one, we can conceive it possible that they might deem themselves justified in demanding, on the broad ground of national justice, an acknowledgment, in the programme of the candidate, of the iniquitous anomaly presented by the Irish Church Establishment, and a pledge to co-operate for its removal. If it be ever so small, it will surely be entitled to test the reality of the candidate's professed interest in political progress, by insisting upon the uncompensated abolition of Church-rates. Between the two extremes, there

are various measures for which a stand may be reasonably made, in proportion to the electoral strength of those who make them. But they are all before the public. In principle, they have all been discussed, not only by the press, but in Parliament. Nay more—we aver that the principle of every one of them has received the sanction of the Liberal party, and may even be found embodied in law. Nowhere, and by nobody, therefore, are untimely or unreasonable exactions likely to be urged upon Liberal candidates, under the plan of the Executive Committee. No honest advocate of progress will be subjected to demands which ought to be considered unjustifiable. Liberalism, it is true, does not look exclusively at ecclesiastical questions—but true Liberalism cannot exclude them from its creed. We are not going to ask for these and nothing else—we expect whatever the other section of the party expects, but we insist upon it that these also be added.

The only defence which the plan of electoral action urged by the Liberation Society requires is one that will clear it from the charge of too great caution and concession. The Committee, however, have only to point to the alarm which their proposal has excited in various quarters to justify their moderation. We hope—nay, more, we confidently believe—that what they have put forward in the shape of propositions they will do their utmost to convert into facts—that there will be no disposition when they come to apply their policy to yield an iota of it to fears or importunities—and that, so far as it goes, their programme will be unhesitatingly adhered to as an ultimatum.

## ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

EVERYBODY, of course, remembers the story of "Difference and Agreement" in that book for all children—good or bad, young or old—the "Evenings at Home." The story tells of the many different places of worship in a certain town, and of the want of agreement between the inhabitants as to how God should be worshipped. The conclusion at this point is that religion is one of the things in which mankind were made to differ. But we are told that the inhabitants of this town, on returning one Sunday morning from public worship, came upon a scene which at once united them. A man had fallen in a fit of apoplexy, and his family stood around him, showing all the signs of the acutest distress. Every one was at once ready with help. A Churchman, we are told, raised him from the ground, while a Dissenter held his head. A Roman Catholic lady assisted with her smelling-bottle, a Methodist ran for the doctor, a Quaker supported and comforted the woman, and a Baptist took care of the children.

There are places all the earth over and occasions arising every day where this scene is being acted. But the world around us is almost altogether as sick as the man who fell down at such an appropriate time in order to illustrate a child's tale, and we feel, this genial sunshiny Christmas week, that we should like to forget all about Church and Dissent, Church-rates and Barial Laws, and grievances and disabilities of every kind; and after shaking hands with the Chairmen and Secretaries of all the Committees of Laymen and Church Institutions, propose a truce until the last carol has been sung on the evening of Christmas Day. One cannot help speculating as to what would be the effect of a hearty, cheerful, and genuine laying down of arms. What would an ecclesiastical truce mean? It is a pleasant subject to think about, if only for a moment; so let us, altogether, indulge in a brief day-dream.

A truce between two armies includes, first, a cessation of fighting. Offensive operations cease; bayonets are stacked; swords are put back into their scabbards; cannons are plugged, and there is rest. But practically a truce is more than this. After the



first hour or so a disposition arises on both sides to make offer of friendly services, to do acts of hospitality, and to render mutual kindnesses. Very tender and touching are some of the tales that have been told of such truces—especially of those in which, as in the American Revolutionary War, brothers often found themselves opposed to brothers, sons to fathers, and fathers to sons. We believe that after such intervals the fighting, although as hard, is less ferocious than before. There are fewer of those deeds that prove most armies to be little, if anything, superior to a herd of beings wholly possessed by the Devil. The receiving, and more especially the doing, of kindness has humanised them, and though, obedient to command, they may fight again, they are less wantonly cruel than before.

Now, imagine such a truce between Church and Dissent—a truce, of course, in which all offensive operations shall end—all offensive operations. The levy of Church-rates would at once cease, for their imposition in one town would be like the firing of a cannon into the ranks of an opposing army, and one of the most "offensive operations" against the Dissenters which could be committed. All ecclesiastical warrants of distress would drop. The Dissenting graduate would not be asked to sign the Thirty-nine Articles, for to ask such a thing and endeavour to enforce it would be a most offensive operation, and a clear and legitimate cause for a renewal of hostilities. Nor would any clergyman plant himself in the way of the Christian burial of a brother, or take proceedings against his relatives, because, in their grief, they prayed unto the Lord. To attempt to administer a "Declaration" to a Dissenter on his assuming a municipal office would be equally a breach of the truce. And so on, and so on. An effectual truce between Church and Dissent would, in fact, be a virtual separation of the Church from the State. The laws that give life to the union, and which cause the perpetual war, would be dead, or rather in a state of suspended animation. We venture to express the opinion that when such a period arrives "killing" will be "no murder." Having the laws at such a disadvantage, the best thing that could be done with them would be to bury them out of sight, and as far as possible out of mind. Then, once again, would the Churches "have rest." And in all hearts, let us hope, every day would then be Christmas Day!

But, you see, we cannot at present have this peace even for one Christmas week. We may sigh for it, but we shall sigh in vain. We may yearn for it, but we know, while we yearn, that we shall not be satisfied. Peace! It means a Church-rate summons; your friends thrust from the graves of the dead, and you yourselves scowled at and trampled upon. Just take this week's news and see what a prospect of peace we have!

We open the *Clerical Journal*, and meet, on the first page, an announcement that it is about to devote its energies, in a systematic manner, to bolstering up the Irish Church, so that this institution may be forced in a more vigorous manner down the throats of Irish Roman Catholics and Protestant Dissenters. The writer of the article on this subject derides the notion that the Establishment is to be surrendered because its adherents are so few. "Surely," he says, "we have not yet come to this, to concede that our glorious Reformation had no deeper principle to rest upon than the *argumentum ad populum*—the wish and determination of the majority of the people of England? Yet, it is now the aim of many to humble the Church of Ireland on the sole ground that there are more Papists than Protestants in the sister island—a doctrine which, if applied there, cannot fail to tell—against the Church of England, when all who neglect her temples, whether Jews, Turks, infidels, and heretics, or the countless masses who are practically of no religion at all, are statistically arrayed against her." So the Irish Church is to be supported whether her adherents be few or many, and the success of Protestantism is to be secured by making it as odious as it can be made. Matthew left his tax-gathering to join Christ, and Christ's religion, as "Established" by law, now sits in the tax-gatherer's place. The *Journal* talks of making the Church "more benevolent." Benevolent tax-gathering! Benevolent coercion! Benevolent suits at law! A benevolent system of tithes! Benevolent Church, supported, as Mr. Goldwin Smith remarks, by twenty thousand bayonets! The Irish must feel it very benevolent to make them pay by force for a religion which they hate: and the extreme of benevolence to strengthen an alien Church.

Then we have an article on "Paul the Tent-maker," in which the poor clergy are scolded for

writing about their poverty to the *Times*. Now we should have thought, that if at any time the poor clergy might hint of their poverty with propriety, it would be at Christmas time. But the *Journal* says that to do so "shows a conceited exaltation" of their profession, and it is of opinion that Paul's "keen sense of proprieties would have been offended at the mode in which the complaints are made, and at the channel chosen for bringing them before the world." That is to say, if Paul had been a starving clergyman, he would never have written to the *Times*. The *Journal* cannot apparently doubt that if Paul had been an Englishman he would have been a State-Church clergyman. Would he, one may ask, have been an Ecclesiastical Commissioner and peer of the realm in lawn sleeves? or a Dean enjoying his *otium cum dignitate*? or a dependent on the Poor Clergy Relief Society, and of course a subscriber to the Articles, the Canons, and a follower of the rubric? The *Journal* has suggested these questions, and therefore should be held responsible for them. But mark the charity for the poor clergy, who are comfortably told to keep their poverty to themselves, and think of Paul the Tentmaker! Why is not this sermon preached to Bishops and Deans?

Another Christmas text! There appear in this newspaper very good illustrations of church architecture. This week the illustration is of the Blackburn Congregational church, and *apropos* to it, there is an article on the architecture of Nonconformist churches. The writer calls attention to the change which has taken place in the opinions and tastes of Dissenters on this subject, and quotes at some length from the pamphlet of Mr. Tabor, in which handsome places of worship for Dissenters are condemned. He also quotes from the manual of the Congregational Chapel-building Society, and ultimately arrives at this conclusion:—

Not many years ago the most earnest and energetic party in the Church was said to imitate the Dissenters, now the most earnest and energetic of the Dissenters imitate the Church. Whether these Dissenters are merely carrying out their own predilections, or whether they are acting on the policy set forth by the Chapel-building Committee, and endeavouring to accommodate themselves to the public sentiment and taste, or whether, as is probable, both motives are combined; we are brought to this conclusion, that Church-like externals are popular. The fact at once suggests to us the further and much more important question, are Church doctrines popular in the same proportion. We hesitate to speak with any confidence on the subject. The tendency of these Church-like Dissenters seems to be not at all to come over to the Church, because in many things they have adopted her observances, but rather to set themselves up with greater bitterness and a keener partisanship as rivals of the Establishment, and to make these imitations of her externals only a mode of asserting equality with her, and a device for diverting some of the population, whose natural tendencies would lead them within her fold for the satisfaction of their religious instincts. There are many, however, among the Dissenters themselves, who believe that this æsthetic movement in their body will lead great numbers of their people over to the Church; and, curiously enough, there are people who draw the same conclusion from the same premises, by such opposite courses of reasoning. The majority, perhaps, think that all this Church-like architecture and ritual will lead those who like it to seek a fuller satisfaction of the tastes thus catered for, in the communion of the Church of England.

There is something in this article worth reading. Its ironical criticism on the pamphlet of the Chapel-Building Society may, for anything we know, have some truth in it, but we doubt it. We can only say that if Nonconformists erect handsome places of worship from the motives ascribed to them, or do any formal religious act from such a motive, Nonconformity is almost as rotten as the Church.

We might extend our illustrations. We might show how the editor of the *Nonconformist* is termed an "impudent editor" because he has presumed to criticise the Bishop of Oxford—how the quarrel relating to the appointment of Dr. Stanley continues, and has drawn from the Rev. E. P. Arnold a declaration that all men are honest in signing the thirty-nine articles; but all men are not truthful—a distinction in morals which we cannot see,—how the *Guardian* is of opinion that nothing will content Dissenters but "the absolute substitution of Salem and Ebenezer for our parochial churches, and the authoritative teaching of their own fanatical superstition instead of the Catholic faith,"—how the homes of the Dissenters of Edinburgh are being robbed by force for the benefit of the State paid clergy of that city,—and so on. And this is Christian work in the year of Grace 1863! A truce? Nay, verily; unless it be a peace. Rather let us seek in this day a more effective baptism with that Love which, nineteen centuries ago, was so wonderfully manifested to the world; and, for the sake of the religion which was then proclaimed, determine that there shall be neither truce nor peace until men calling themselves by the Christian name shall have ceased to prostitute the Christian religion by identifying it with a system of fraud, injustice, and violence.

For the religion which we see "established" is one neither of "peace on earth" nor of "good will to men."

#### MEETINGS OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY. PRESTON.

The members and friends of the Preston branch of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control held their annual meeting, on Monday night week, in the Lancaster-road school-room. Mr. Councillor Haslam was called to the chair, and briefly introduced the business of the meeting.

The Rev. F. BUGBY (late of Preston) then addressed the meeting. Referring to the late Manchester Congress, he said that the proceedings suggested a paraphrase of one of Dr. Watts' songs:—

Let Baptists love to bark and bite,  
For God hath made them so;  
Let Independents growl and fight,  
For 'tis their nature, too.

But Denison should never let  
Such angry passions rise;  
Your little hands were never made  
To tear Hugh Stowell's eyes.

The speaker then proceeded to comment on a recent speech delivered by Mr. G. Howells Davies, the secretary of the Church Institution, which was, in fact, the child of the Liberation Society, and was, in reality, helping the latter. Men could do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. It was a sign of the society's power when men took counsel together against it. Mr. Davies was quite correct in saying that the Liberation Society did "most earnestly feel that they were in the right to begin with." They knew they were in the right; it was that which inspired them with courage and gave them the certainty of ultimate success. (Cheers.)

Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just,  
And he but naked, though locked up in steel,  
Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted.

It was worthy of remark that the electoral policy which had been commended to the society's adoption, should be almost identical with that laid down for political Churchmen. Mr. Davies had said:—

Without going into politics—for that the Church Institution steered most carefully clear of—he would say that if a Parliamentary candidate appeared before them, whether he was a Radical, Whig, or Tory, he did think that it was the duty of Churchmen, who happened to be electors, to see that the man of their choice voted right upon all Church questions.

Two could play at that game, and the game was much more interesting and exciting than when played with a "dummy." ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The recommendation of the executive committee of the Liberation Society might be put in almost the same terms—the same with a difference, substituting "religious equality" for "Church questions." (Hear, hear.) He did not know whether or not he was right, but, in his judgment, perhaps the largest section of the work the society had to do during the next few years would have to be done among the society's own people. It was only a minority of the members of their churches and congregations who were at all up to the mark. Such principles should not be taught simply during the Bicentenary year, but should pervade the teaching of every year.

No doubt the half-hearted and the worldly mind of those who wish to keep things pleasant with their Church friends will be offended, and perchance walk no more with us. Well! better so; better even that they ranged themselves among the opposing hosts than to bring confusion into our councils and division into our ranks by their reluctant sympathy and tardy and insufficient support. Oh, we want a more manly type of Dissent. Many seem to hold their principles as if to have been a Nonconformist may be nothing to be ashamed of when looked back upon from the splendours of heaven, but as if to be a Nonconformist is something to be a little ashamed of now; and as if it were almost requisite to make an apology to Church people for not being of them. Now, we want men who will not only not be ashamed of their principles, but will be proud of them, and will manifest that pride on all proper occasions and in all proper ways—men who will be valiant for the truth, who will be like the Israelites when they rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem—"with one of his hands he wrought in the work and with the other hand he held a weapon"; men who will give what Captain Cuttle calls "an out'ard and visible sign of an in'ard and spirited grasp." ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) We want men like the three Hebrew Nonconformists of Babylon; not that we have to fear the same burning fiery furnace, though I do not suppose that would be wanting if some men had their way. But we have to maintain the same principles, to fight under the same banner, to meet and master the same foes;

No slacker grows the fight,  
No feebler is the foe,  
Nor less the need of armour bright,  
Of shield, and spear, and bow.

(Applause.) We believe that in setting our hands to this work we are engaged in one of the grandest enterprises which can absorb the energies of good men, or attract the approval of holy angels, or win the applause of our Lord and Master—that we shall secure priceless benefits to the English branches, whether free or yet bound, of the holy Catholic Church—that we shall prepare a great tomb in which shall be interred the heart-burnings, and rivalries, and jealousies, and strifes, which now not only overspread the nation, but rankle in the Church itself, clinging to the very horns of the altar—that we shall remove from the shoulders of our legislators a burden which neither they nor their fathers have been able to bear, and to set them free to devote their liberated energies to their appropriate and allotted province—that we shall impart additional firmness to the throne, and shed a new lustre on the crown of the beloved monarch of these realms—that in making our country the home not only of free speech, free trade,



free travel, and a free press, but also of a free church, we shall conserve the interests, secular and sacred, of our broad and noble commonwealth; and thus, by serving our own generation shall serve every other, and promote His glory in whom all the nations of the earth are blessed. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, after adverting to the suspension of the society's operations in Lancashire for some time, and the Parliamentary aspects of the question—the Tories having found themselves strong enough to maintain a species of blockade which the Whigs would not break,—said that they were simply engaged in endeavouring to repeal certain political enactments, and must therefore act upon public opinion, and urge it to express itself in the usual constitutional way. He then spoke of the electoral policy of the Society, which was justified on the ground that while no great political questions occupied the public mind, ecclesiastical topics were never so ripe, and even their opponents had announced their intention to make the Church Establishment question the one upon which the next general election should turn. But the Liberation party wished to act with reason.

It was proposed that whatever action was taken should be determined by the strength of the friends of religious equality in the locality in which the electors resided. It would be unreasonable to expect the inhabitants of a little borough where Toryism was strong to do so much as could be done in large towns where Liberalism flourished; and it might, as a rule, be undesirable to expect as much from county voters as from the inhabitants of boroughs. Where they found themselves to be weak they should act with the modesty and circumspection becoming weak men, and should look for comparatively little from the candidates for their suffrages. But it was the duty of the strong to help the weak; and those who in large constituencies were strong, by reason of their numbers and influence, ought to do their utmost to compensate for the weakness to be found in other districts. (Loud cheers.) Therefore, wherever the friends of the society constituted a majority of the Liberal party, they should assume the position their numbers entitled them to occupy, and should insist that those who came forward to represent them in Parliament should really represent their wishes. Let it not be understood that the members of the society were foolish enough to expect that they would return at the next election many who held what were termed their abstract principles. Rome was not built in a day. They did not expect for years to come to see the complete triumph of the principles enunciated on that platform, but they would ask Parliament to give them measures in accordance with public opinion. They would take instalments which would carry them in the direction they wished to travel, and would accept the smallest act of justice from the Legislature, in the belief that they would presently obtain greater; for the more religious equality the people got the more they wished to have. (Cheers.)

Mr. Williams next proceeded to advert to the particular topics likely to be pressed upon Liberal candidates, such as Mr. Hadfield's Qualification for Offices Abolition Bill, the abolition of Church-rates, the burial question, and university tests.

It might be said that if the Nonconformist body insisted upon pressing questions of this kind upon candidates, the Liberal party would be divided. But why should they be divided? The Nonconformists had fought side by side with the other sections of Liberals, and would do so again for the common weal, and why should not the Liberal party unite with them in these matters? They were told there should be concession, and so there should, but should concession always be on one side? (Loud cheers.) Either the Liberal party would as a party unite with them in such matters, or they would not. If they united, the evil deprecated would not occur; while, if the Liberal party refused to unite in support of measures so reasonable and so equitable, it was not worth keeping in existence as a party; for they required Liberals in act and deed, as well as in profession. (Loud cheers.)

They wanted no more than the Bishop of Oxford had said was necessary for the government of India:—"Our duty seems to me to be a perfectly simple one—that we should, in the first place, maintain peace, truth, and quietness; that we should say, No man shall be punished for his religion, disgraced for his religion, or suffer for his religion." In those sentences might be summed up the great purpose they had in view, and the spirit in which they sought to work. They considered that if such sentiments were good for India, they were good for Old England also; and they believed that when success had crowned their efforts, the children of the men now arrayed against them would honour them for their work and bless God for its results. (Loud applause.)

After a racy speech from the Rev. H. W. PARKINSON, of Rochdale, which was much applauded, the Rev. G. W. CLAPHAM moved, and the Rev. W. KNOX seconded, the appointment of the committee for the ensuing year.

The Rev. R. SLATE, who was received with applause, had great pleasure in proposing that the cordial thanks of the meeting be presented to those gentlemen who had addressed them that night. He had been present on other occasions like that; it was not the first time he had been present at the annual meeting of the Liberation Society, and he must say he was not ashamed to be there. (Applause.) He had not appeared for the purpose of making a speech, but he might say his Nonconformist principles were more firmly based than they had ever been before. (Cheers.) The sentiments they had heard, and the manner in which they had been delivered, must tend to confirm every mind willing to be confirmed in the principles instilled into their hearts, and on which the Liberation Society was based.

The Rev. J. MAHER seconded the motion, which was carried and acknowledged by Mr. WILLIAMS.

The Rev. W. C. SQUIER, in moving a vote of thanks for the use of the room, spoke of the battle against Easter-dues in Preston, and condemned the

conduct of the Liberal mayor of that town for going in state to the parish church. They had been told that night that it was the duty of the strong to help the weak, and if they were not taxed for Church-rates in Preston, for the sake of those who were they ought to support the Liberation Society. (Applause.) Then with regard to parish churchyards. They had a cemetery; but what a sad thing it was in some places, where there was no other burial-ground than that of the parish church, to have to follow their departed to the place of burial and not to hear the parting words said over them by those who were near and dear to them whilst living.

The Rev. F. BUGBY seconded the motion, which was adopted by the meeting, and acknowledged by the Rev. G. W. CLAPHAM.

The Rev. J. BRIGGS, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said he did not think the course the Liberation Society were about to pursue the most wise and judicious under the circumstances.

Mr. KEARLEY, in seconding the motion, briefly combated the opinions expressed by Mr. Briggs.

Mr. PARKINSON also supported the resolution, which was then passed with acclamation, and duly acknowledged by the chairman.

Two verses of a hymn were then sung, and the meeting separated.

BLACKBURN.—A good meeting was held in the James-street Chapel schoolroom on the 22nd inst. Mr. Alderman Hoole presided, and Mr. Carvell Williams delivered a lengthened address; after which the Rev. J. Skinner moved a resolution, expressing continued attachment to the society. In doing so he said: In attending such a meeting as this I almost feel young again. It is above thirty years since I first advocated, not only religious liberty, but religious equality, in this town of ours, and you, sir, were chairman of the committee with which I co-operated in annihilating Church-rates in Blackburn. We are extremely gratified to-night—and when I say so I express my own feelings—for the very able and interesting address to which we have just listened. I think every one present must feel that the principles of the Liberation Society are in accordance with all that is just and kind." The Rev. J. B. Lister said he seconded the motion most heartily and earnestly. He agreed with all that had been said that night, for it had been advanced with great temperance, great kindness, and great wisdom. They had all spoken as calm, honest, earnest men, and all that had been said had been uttered for the advancement of religious truth, for the honour of our God and Saviour, and for the advancement of religion. The resolution was then carried, and Mr. Smalley moved the reappointment of the local committee, which Mr. Cook seconded. The Rev. A. Fraser proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Williams, for his able advocacy of the cause of the society that night, and to W. Hoole, Esq., for his services in the chair. Mr. J. Lawson seconded the proposition, which was carried and acknowledged.

ACCORINGTON.—One of the best meetings of the Liberation Society ever held in Accorington, took place last Thursday evening, when the Peel Institution was crowded to excess; the audience being composed almost exclusively of men. Mr. Bury acted as chairman, and, in addition to Mr. Carvell Williams, the speakers were the Rev. Messrs. Charles Williams and Lewis, Messrs. Tattersall, Newton, and Marshall, several denominations being represented. The meeting was congratulated on the fact, that the recent agitation against Easter-dues had so far been crowned with success, that in all the districts where it prevailed, the enforcement of them had been abandoned. The Rev. Charles Williams bore testimony to the fairness with which the Episcopalians of Accorington acted towards Dissenters, and said that they had materially aided in the Anti-Easter-dues movement. It was, however, insisted upon that other places were less favourably circumstanced, and that the Accorington Nonconformists should support a society which sought for religious equality everywhere.

OLDHAM.—A public meeting was held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, but unfortunately the night was wet, and the attendance was therefore comparatively small. John Aston, Esq., was chairman. Mr. Carvell Williams, the Rev. J. Brown, of Bamford, and Mr. Kearley delivered elaborate addresses, and the Rev. J. Hodgson, Mr. Geddes, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr. Shepley, also took part in the proceedings.

#### THE PRESS AND THE ELECTORAL POLICY OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

The *Freeman*, in discussing the "Memorandum" of the Committee of the Liberation Society, regrets that there should be any necessity for such explanations, and that Nonconformist timidity needs to be so much consulted. That "is what has alone restrained us from calling on Nonconformist electors to take much higher ground."

If the most timid and politic Dissenter will but glance at the "memorandum" of the Executive Committee, which we publish in another column, we should think his fears will be allayed. He will see that the society and its friends have never dreamed of anything so absurd, in England especially so suicidal, as dictation to electors; neither will they find any approach to a crotchet, either in the object proposed, or in the means of giving effect to it. The object—the furtherance of the principles and practice of religious equality—will hardly by any class now be deemed a crotchet; nor can the word be applied to the practical suggestion that our position on the register should be the measure of our electoral demands. It must rather be admitted that this suggestion reads rather too much like worldly-wise caution; as if in the

exercise of political power we were to look less at our principles than at our numbers; our principles, however, the Committee tell us, we are to keep primarily before us, but our numbers are to be the measure of our demands. Surely, even the hon. member for Leeds will hardly object to this. Further, we are told that existing political ties are not to be severed, nor all we think due to us to be asked of our fellow-Liberal electors; and again, that should questions of more immediate national concern arise in connection with the next general election, that of religious equality may be once more, as it has too commonly been, withdrawn into the background. Only let us, the committee say, seeing that as things are our question is second to none in its present claims—let us give that question paramount importance at the coming elections. What those would do who shrink from this very mild advice, it is hard to imagine. Churchmen are resolved that error shall not lumber at the coming elections. Are we to resemble the foolish virgins, when the perhaps sudden cry of an election comes, leaving it to our opponents to imitate the wise ones? If so, we shall probably for another seven years deplore the consequences.

"A Liberationist" ably combats in the *Inquirer* the views of the editor of that journal. He speaks of "the eminent public services" of the leaders of the Liberation Society, during twenty years of labour in the great and often unpopular question of ecclesiastical reform, during which "they have succeeded in infusing a new life into the whole Nonconformist body, and in awakening public attention to the gross anomalies and mischief of Church Establishments. The principles of the Liberation Society, whether we promote them or not, will be substantially the principles that will more and more influence our national legislation, make or unmake Ministries, and form a prominent feature of electioneering tactics." "A Liberationist" goes on to say:—

You say that the policy in question is "calculated to lessen the legitimate influence of Dissent," to "convert it into a contemptible political faction," and is tantamount to "a vain strife after political predominance;" and it will surprise the reader if I quote side by side with these grave imputations the words of the obnoxious resolution against which they are aimed. It simply recommends "that they (the friends of religious equality) should make such demands on behalf of their principles as may be warranted by their strength on the local register." So the aggressive tactics, after all, are to be guided by circumstances, the state of the local register; no invariable course is to be pursued, and each constituency is to do as it has hitherto done—return the best candidate it can, choosing him more for his principles than his party. If one half the Liberal electors be Nonconformists, and they are able to return two members, is it any undue demand on behalf of their principles that one member be a Liberationist? There is nothing contemptibly factious in this, much less does it savour of a "vain strife after political predominance."

The sole aim of Mr. Miall and his colleagues, so far from being factious, is to quicken the zeal of consistent Nonconformists, that they may put forth the legitimate influence of great principles, and receive that national recognition which the Church and Tory party unite to deny them. Who will say that the influence of Dissent has been "legitimate" for the last one hundred and fifty years? When their wealth, numbers, patriotism, and public services are considered, they would be hardly Englishmen if they passively submitted to injustice; if they were "content with that measure of recognition" they have hitherto received; a recognition too often of inferiority and insult, consisting in exclusion from the universities, from grammar-schools, and even from the burial places of their fathers; a recognition to be taxed for the support of an ecclesiastical system they repudiate. It is easy to talk about the "inherent justice of their claims," and the merits of the Liberal party; but we know that even "inherent justice" will go to sleep with Liberals, unless it be persistently asserted. It is all very fine to talk of the "moderate men who are friendly to the Church as a national establishment, and yet ready to relieve Dissenters of every real grievance." Have you, sir, ever been in Ireland, or ever heard of a "real grievance" perpetuated by the "moderate men" upon the Irish Catholics who are our fellow-Dissenters? If so, perhaps you can tell us when the party of "moderate men," traditionally so liberal, and so ready to acknowledge "inherent justice" and remove "every real grievance" has as a party laboured for the removal of the grossest ecclesiastical fraud and scandal in all Christendom.

The *Preston Guardian*, apropos of the recent Liberation meeting in that town, thinks there is great pertinence in the claim that Liberal electors should make the programme of the society their own at the next general election.

It is high time that the grievances enumerated by Mr. Williams should not be trifled with, and that the House of Commons should pronounce their condemnation in a voice which will hinder the House of Lords interposing for their continuance. But if the Commons are to do their part, Liberal electors must not be remiss or oblivious of their duty. When the candidate is making his bow, let him be courteously but firmly interrogated; let him know that in Church-rates and other questions, the constituency he seeks to represent have a strong opinion, and that he would misrepresent them, were his opinion on those points different from theirs. If there are any State-Churchmen who honestly believe that the Establishment would sink in the void made by the abolition of Church-rates, they must be left to act according to their judgment; but we cannot bring ourselves highly to respect the judgment which would retain a religious establishment grounded and founded in a tax on the consciences of men sincerely devout. Impartial observers may be left to decide whether the benign spirit of religion is displayed in holding and enforcing so obnoxious an enactment.

#### THE BISHOP OF OXFORD'S CHARGE AND THE DISSENTERS.

Yesterday evening week, the first of two public meetings was held in the New Hall, Reading, for the purpose of giving an opportunity for the expression of the opinion of the Dissenters of this town with reference to some points in the Bishop of Oxford's



recent Charge to his clergy, which Dissenters generally, and many Churchmen, considered objectionable. The chair was occupied by Charles James Andrewes, Esq., and there were also on the platform the Revs. W. Legg, J. Aldis, F. Stevenson, R. Bulmer, and D. Messop; Mr. J. Boorne, Mr. Barber, and many others, the space being quite filled. The body of the hall was crowded to excess. The Rev. W. Legg and the Rev. J. F. Stevenson were announced to deliver two addresses appropriate to the occasion.

The meeting being opened by prayer by the Rev. D. Messop,

The CHAIRMAN stated the reasons which had induced them to call that meeting. He spoke of the interest which the Charge had excited, and the influence such a man as the Bishop of Oxford was likely to exercise throughout the country. He had no doubt about the bishop's goodness, and believed him to be thoroughly in earnest in what he said, but his views were very much at variance with the teaching of God's Word. It was extraordinary teaching that recommended the severance of those ties binding Christian to Christian, to tell their friends in the Church that they were to have nothing more to do with them, but hold themselves aloof from them in every sense of the word. He alluded to the way in which the bishop placed the Bible at the foot of the Church, however ambiguous his words might be; and however double-meaning—and some people had a wonderful power in that respect. He referred incidentally to the association by the bishop of the Nonconformists with public-houses and bad cottages, as hindrances to the teaching of the Church of England. He hoped the Nonconformists would long prove a hindrance; for the measure of their hindrance would be the measure of their success, and so long as the teaching of the Church was not in conformity with the simple Word of God, so long would they find Nonconformity a hindrance. (Applause.)

The Rev. W. LEGG, B.A., then delivered an address on the position in which they were placed in that diocese as Protestant Dissenters. He referred to their Puritan ancestors, and their noble example, and expressed a wish that their mantles might have rested on their descendants that they might emulate their faithfulness and zeal. After glancing at the persecution endured by Nonconformists and their changed position now—Dissenters in that borough having filled with approbation the highest office of the magistracy—Mr. Legg proceeded to criticise the charge of the Bishop and his scheme of "distinctive Church teaching," which was to aid the clergy and be a remedy for the presence of Dissent. It was a system founded on the Oxford tracts, which were the root of all their errors and anti-Protestant proceedings, and the cause of that act of priestly arrogance which had brought together that meeting. Dissenters were, according to the bishop, not only inferior but non-existent as a Church, their ministers intruders, and, according to the bishop's theory, there was no salvation apart from episcopal ordination. Describing the real spirit of Christianity, he asked whether a bishop's sanction was necessary to stand between a soul and death. They were accused of "unsettling the minds" of the people belonging to the clergy. They did not deny it. They had unsettled the clergy themselves.

We have aroused them to a performance of their duty. There was not a single National School in any parish of Reading, till the Dissenters built the British School in Southampton-street. Indeed, the National Schools have all been founded since I came to this town. There was not a single Sunday-school in the parishes till the Baptists established one in Hosier-street, and the Independents one in connection with Broad-street Chapel. There was no systematic tract-lending till we divided the town, which contained only 15,000 inhabitants, into three districts and into about sixty sections, with a corresponding number of visitors, who regularly visited every house and cottage consenting to receive the publications of the Religious Tract Society. It was twelve years after we had this scheme in full operation, before one—and that not a parish one—of the parish churches adopted the same course. How much of the intelligence and moral excellence, and piety of Reading may be due to this activity of the Dissenters, I will not pretend to say. Now it is manifest that in this town, at least, the Church has had the succession of all these activities through the Dissenters.

Recently at Brighton the Bishop of Oxford dwelt upon the glorious fruits of Christianity in Madagascar, but did not say a word to the effect that this work had been begun by the instrumentality of the London Missionary Society, without sacramental efficacy or priestly operation. The Bishop was shut up to own that the Nonconformists might be called the Church, or was liable to the charge of practising deception on his audience. The speaker then examined and refuted the theory of apostolical succession, and maintained that a Gospel ministry was God's own positive institution; nor was the personal succession theory to be found in the Bible, nor in the Articles, or the Prayer-book of the Church of England. In former times the bishops had been conspicuous for their persecuting spirit. But now their power was limited, and public opinion was more and more restricting it. Mr. Legg proceeded:—

The distinctive teaching of the great succession men will not distinguish bad cottages, nor beer-shops, nor Dissenters; and what is far worse, I fear it is not fitted to save souls, with its sacramental efficacy and priestly manipulations. Still there is an apostolic succession which I claim for myself and my brethren—it is the only supreme and essential rule of succession, namely, the preaching of the truth, of the faith, of the doctrine, taught by the Apostles. We want Christ crucified, and the demonstration of the Spirit. Puseyism was simply a reaction on the then widely-spread evangelicalism in the Church; rationalism is a reaction on Puseyism, and from rationalism there is but one step to infidelity, and that one step has been taken by a bishop, who says

that Moses is a myth, and if so, we know that Christ can be nothing more, for He says, "If ye had believed Moses, ye would have believed me." The inference is, he that believes not Moses, believes not in Christ. No, we have no fear that either sacramentalist or rationalist will put down Dissent in the parishes. They may proceed from altar to altar, and from hill to hill, but they will have like the son of Peor, to exclaim, "How shall we curse whom God hath not cursed, and how shall we defy whom the Lord hath not defied?" The preaching of the Gospel prevailed against the power of the Caesars, and the still more formidable thunders of the Vatican; it now proceeds with quickened impulse and growing strength; and as soon might we expect the ark to fall before the image of Dagon, as the ordinance of God to be overcome by the devices of men. If the truth of the Gospel had been left to the succession men, it would have perished long ago. The fishermen of Galilee, the poor men of Lyons, the Huguenots of France, the Lollards in England, Luther the Monk in Germany, the striplings Wesley, and Whitfield at Oxford—these have been God's instruments—this, this is the succession to which I feel it to be my glory to belong!

After a few verses of a hymn were sung,

The Rev. J. F. STEVENSON then proceeded to deliver his address. He stated that the subject which he was specially to touch upon that night was "The relations of the Bible to the Church, and the Church to the Bible." In the course of his address he said that he had three or four objections to putting the Church on a level with the Bible.

He wanted to know first what Church the Bishop of Oxford meant; was it the Church of Apostolic times? Then he would say it was a poor and sorry thing to put that Church side by side with God's blessed written word itself. Take the Apostles themselves, and see how far they, in their ministerial vocation, ever claimed such a lordship over the faithful as that. Did they not appeal everywhere to the sacred Scriptures, so much of them as was then written, as their authority for speaking? Did they not prove Christ's Messiahship out of the Old Testament? Did the Apostles claim infallibility for the early Church? Did St. Paul write to the Church of Corinth as a Pope might write to an infallible Church? Read Christ's own message delivered by His own messenger to the seven Churches in Asia Minor, and tell him whether the primitive Church was "co-relative" or co-ordinate with the Word of God. Then with reference to the unanimous consent of the Fathers, as some would urge, he would listen to their unanimous consent when they had one, but he never could find a point of doctrine upon which they fully agreed. Then with regard to the Church of Rome, we had tried that for fifteen centuries and found it would not do. Europe flung it away three centuries ago as being rotten with corruption. He also referred to what was being done in our own day with reference to that Church in Italy. As a first step to her freedom she was casting out all this traditionalism. The instinct of her new-born freedom told her she must get rid of it with all speed, or else she would fall back into bondage and slavery. We had had enough of that. Was it the Greek or the Armenian Church the bishop meant, or the African Churches, some of which were so horribly corrupted that Mahomedanism itself was something better than their disfigured Christianity, and swept it away by its moral superiority. He prayed Englishmen to think what they were doing when they were listening to teaching like this. He would now ask, was it the Church of England the bishop meant? He was not going to speak against the Church of England except as pretending to be co-ordinate with the Bible. He was not going to object to ecclesiastical establishments now, nor to Episcopal governments as one of many forms of government that might be good in its way; nor to Articles of Church services, if they could but put an evangelical and non-priestly interpretation on them; but he wished to show the utter futility of appealing to the Anglican Church. Historically, it was a political expedient of King, Lords, and Commons. When Popery was taken away as the national religion, then the Government established the form of religion now known as the Church of England. If the Episcopal Church was infallible it was because the Parliament of Henry the Eighth established, and the Parliament of Elizabeth re-established, and the Parliament of Charles the Second again re-established it. (Laughter.) Unless they were prepared to prove these Parliaments infallible, they could not find infallibility in the Anglican Establishment. (Applause.) The Lord Bishop of Oxford has submitted, and might have to submit again to do, what he (Mr. Stevenson) would rather lose his right hand than submit to, to have the creed of his Church determined for him, to quote the language of one of the daily papers, by a set of lawyers round a green table. (Great applause.) The Bishop of Oxford knows perfectly well that if the House of Commons chose to pass a bill to-morrow abolishing the necessity of episcopal ordination, and if he (Mr. Stevenson) chose to take advantage of that bill, he could, on the mere word of the House of Commons, walk into the Anglican Church in spite of all the bishop could do to prevent it. What then became of the Church, which could be changed to-morrow by will of a House of Commons?

The rev. gentleman concluded his address amid great applause.

Mr. BOORNE then moved, and Mr. BARBER seconded, the following resolutions:—

That in the opinion of this meeting, the reference to the Dissenters by the Bishop of Oxford, in his recent charge to his clergy, is alike unbecoming and uncalled for.

That as the Nonconformists have been among the foremost promoters of Bible teaching, and defenders of Protestant principles, they are loudly called upon at the present crisis, to put forth every effort in their power, to resist teaching and practices which have the undoubted tendency to deprecate and taint the Church of this country.

That this meeting expresses its full conviction that the Nonconformist ministry, sanctioned by the authority and sustained by the grace of Christ, occupies a position not less sacred than that of any other.

That this meeting thankfully acknowledges the Divine institution of the Church of Christ, and devoutly recognises the wisdom of God which has constituted it the custodian and repository of the sacred Scriptures.

That it views with extreme regret, any tendency to constitute a branch of that church, a fountain of religious authority, either co-ordinate with, or anterior to the Bible; and especially records its disapprobation of such portions of the recent Charge of the Bishop of Oxford, as, however cautiously worded, are yet calculated to leave the impression that the Bible derives some portion of its authority from the voice of the Church; and it affirms, as a fundamental truth of Christianity, that it

is of itself a distinct and amply sufficient record of God's will, and, as such, is capable of interpretation, with the promised help of the Holy Spirit, by the conscience of the individual student.

They were unanimously carried, after which the meeting separated.

The second public meeting of the Dissenters was held in the New Hall on Friday evening, for the purpose of discussing the Bishop of Oxford's Charge. Mr. G. Palmer occupied the chair, and the hall was again crowded to excess. The meeting was opened by prayer by the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, and after a few remarks from the chairman, the Rev. J. Aldis delivered an able address on "The Divine Presence with the Church," and he was loudly applauded throughout its delivery. The Rev. R. Bulmer afterwards delivered an address on "The Union of Churchmen and Dissenters"; after which, on the motion of Mr. West, of Amersham College, seconded by Mr. Eisell, the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

That this meeting, while reverently acknowledging the Divine authority of all Scriptural ordinances, desirous of their proper celebration, and thankful for the edification they are intended to secure; yet holds that, without faith, by whomsoever administered, they can be neither acceptable to God, nor beneficial to man.

That while further it rejoices in the assurance that the Divine presence is vouchsafed to each believer, and to every congregation of faithful men, it yet remains that such presence is spiritual, not miraculous, and that it is always and exclusively manifested with the Word of God and by the power of the Holy Ghost.

That all pretensions to sacramental grace, by whomsoever put forth, are gratuitous assumptions, without the warranty of Scripture, and are fatal alike to the liberties of the people, and the supremacy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

That this meeting deeply laments the effort recently made by the Bishop of Oxford, to prevent the slender and infrequent public intercourse between Clergymen and Dissenters, and yet more, that such intercourse should be stigmatised as a transgression.

That it holds that such an attempt is a painful illustration of episcopal tyranny, and clerical bondage, a humiliating contrast with the advancement of liberal ideas in every other part of the world; and calculated to revive and embitter fading animosities, to alienate those whose antagonism have been too often a scandal and an injury,—to hinder those whose united efforts are but too feeble against the forces of immorality and ungodliness, and to exalt the authority of an individual, and the interests of a party, above the claims of charity, and the Word of God.

It was then moved by the Rev.—Whitehouse, and seconded by Mr. James, that the addresses should be printed and published, and the motion was carried. The proceedings then terminated, and the meeting was dismissed with the benediction.

#### CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

NANTWICH.—In this town the voluntary rate system has been in operation during the last six years, and Dissenters have largely contributed. With a view to obtain a legal rate from some public bodies a vestry-meeting was called a few days ago to lay a rate on the understanding that the churchwardens should only correct it from willing ratepayers. The rector, the Rev. A. F. Chater, presided and explained the object of the meeting, and said that the churchwardens had no wish to make any alteration in the existing state of things unless with the consent of the parishioners generally. It was for those present to say whether they would sanction the proposal. Considerable opposition was manifested to the plan. The Rev. E. L. Adams, Congregational minister, said they were as anxious as Churchmen that this money should be got, and he thought no better proof of that anxiety could be afforded than the willingness with which the appeal for voluntary contributions had been met by the Dissenters. He appealed to the churchwardens to say whether as a rule Dissenters had refused assistance when they had been asked. It was not simply a question of confiding in the churchwardens, but it involved the whole principle of a Church Establishment—whether or not they had a right to levy and to compel payment of Church-rates. They contended that no such right existed, and if they, as Dissenters, conceded that point, they would be giving up those very principles for which they had fought so hard for many years. Eventually, with the consent of the chairman, the meeting was dissolved—matters being left precisely as heretofore.

EXETER.—The great Church-rate fight came off at St. John's on Saturday and Monday. The parties met in the church on Saturday. The committee who had placed the props in St. John's-bow, tendered money raised by the voluntary principle and sufficient to remove the obstruction and repair the Bow. This the churchwardens refused to accept. Taking advantage of the dilemma in which they thought the parish was placed, they moved the grant of a Church-rate of eighteenpence in the pound, and on a division they were successful, the anti-raters being beaten by out parishioners, as it was averred. The anti-raters demanded a poll, and on Monday the poll came off at the King Alfred Inn, the rector presiding. The Church party came out in extraordinary force, and spent a good deal of money on the affair. It is evident that they had been making a great preparation for this struggle. Several persons were "neutralised," and several votes were made for the occasion, in a way which proves a great and intolerable outrage on the ratepayers. There are certain cellars, in the Lower-market, which were all found to be rated by "joint tenants." Mrs. Venton and son voted on one cellar. Mr. Mease and his two sons on another cellar, three votes. Messrs Moxey and William Pollard, the printer of North-street, came and voted two votes on another cellar which Moxey underlets, and Mr. George Down came also as a cellarman. By this "sell" of the cellar votes the numbers were at the poll brought up even, 108 on each side, and the parson gave his casting vote for the rate, having previously voted. It is stated that the ten votes of these cellar-men, who are all out-parishioners, were clearly



illegal, as they had not been rated, and the parish will not submit to the invasion.—*Western Times*.

#### THE CLERGY AND THE BURIAL QUESTION.

At a meeting of the clergy held at Cheltenham on Wednesday, the Rev. Canon Davies in the chair, for the purpose of discussing the Burial Service of the Church, it was unanimously resolved, "That no such alteration is advisable which shall leave the use or omission of the office to the judgment of an individual clergyman." The Rev. T. Goodlake proposed, "That this meeting do petition Convocation to make no alterations for communicants, or for those who are not of an age to be communicants, but to admit alternative collects for non-communicants in the offices for the burial of the dead." On this resolution being put, however, only four hands were held up for it. A resolution, affirming that an alteration is desirable, was also put and lost.

A considerable number of the clergy of the diocese of Exeter have presented to the Bishop an address on the subject of the Burial Service, in which they say:—

We feel that the difficulties presented by the suggestions which have come under our notice for altering the language of the Burial Service are greater than those which are felt in retaining it in its present form. We are unable to perceive how any alteration could be made in its language which would render the service suitable to the case of those whose state in God's sight it were hardly possible to speak hopefully without materially detracting from the comforting and joyous language applicable to the state of those who died in the Lord. Resting, therefore, on the truth in God's Word announced, that in the visible church "the evil are ever mingled with the good," and feeling strongly that it is not in the province of man to pronounce on his fellow-man, especially over the grave of the departed, that judgment which must be left to the Judge of the quick and the dead, we would earnestly deprecate any alteration in our Burial Service, or any addition thereto. We would at the same time rejoice if it were possible to remove the difficulty in which clergymen are occasionally placed of either violating the law or offending against their own consciences.

The Bishop of Exeter, in acknowledging the address, states his opinion that it embodies what he believes to be, on the whole, the least objectionable practical view of a question beset with so great difficulties.

**THE NEW DEAN OF LINCOLN.**—The Rev. Francis Jeune, D.C.L., canon of Gloucester, master of Pembroke College, Oxford, and rector of Taynton, Gloucestershire, has been offered by Lord Palmerston, and has accepted, the Deanery of Lincoln, vacant by the lamented death of Mr. Garnier. Dr. Jeune was a member of the Oxford University Commission, and is in favour of throwing it open to Dissenters, abolishing close fellowship, &c.

**BISHOP COLENSO'S TRIAL** commenced at the Cape on the 17th ult. in St. George Cathedral, before the Metropolitan Bishop of Cape Town and two suffragans, the Bishop of Graham's Town and the Bishop of the Orange Free State. The accusing clergy, the Dean of Cape Town and the Archdeacons of Graham's Town and George Town, were present to support the charges they had preferred. Dr. Bleck, curator of the Grey Library, attended on behalf of Bishop Colenso, and read a letter from the bishop denying the jurisdiction of the court, and handed in a formal protest against the proceedings. The Dean of Cape Town supported the charges in an eloquent and forcible speech, characterised by deep research and great ability. The trial was expected to extend over several days. The question at issue would finally pass into the hands of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

**"BROTHER IGNATIUS" IN LONDON.**—On Sunday "Brother Ignatius" preached in the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Munster-square, Regent's-park, a church celebrated for some time for its ultra-ritualism. During the service "Brother Ignatius" sat in the chancel seats, appropriated for the use of the priests, vested in his gown of serge, with cowl and sandals. During the singing of the hymn the rev. gentleman ascended the pulpit, selecting for his text a passage from the 22nd chapter of Revelation, "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." He concluded an eloquent sermon by an earnest appeal for help. The brothers now number twelve, and they intend building a house, consisting of a retreat for parish clergy who may desire rest, the brothers undertaking to do their duty while they are recruiting their strength; a home for decayed old men who have laboured in the service of the Church; and a college for instructing youth, on the principle of the Church of England. They required from 30,000*l.* to 40,000*l.*, out of which they had received 10,000*l.*, a lady alone giving 2,000*l.* He hoped they would collect the 20,000*l.* that night. Whether his hopes were realised remains to be seen. A collection was then made for the benefit of the Benedictine brotherhood.

**DECEASE OF THE REV. WILLIAM BEDFORD, LATE OF NARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—The death of this esteemed and zealous minister of Jesus Christ took place early on the morning of the 17th inst. During a period of more than forty years, he had laboured with earnestness and fidelity in his Master's service. His high Christian character and self-sacrificing spirit will be long and gratefully remembered in the locality where he resided. Few perhaps lived more habitually in communion with God, and his preaching was characterised by deep experimental acquaintance with the truths of the Gospel, and affectionate solicitude for the salvation of his hearers. For the pastoral office he had peculiar qualifications; his visits to the members of his

flock have left an impression which will not easily be obliterated. The closing years of his life have been attended with severe physical sufferings, but his mind was ever tranquil, being stayed upon his God. In the autumn of 1860 shortly after the death of his beloved wife, Mr. Bedford removed to the quiet village of Great Snoring, Norfolk, feeling from his increasing infirmities that he was no longer able to perform his ministerial duties. There he spent his declining days. His end was perfect peace. He sweetly fell asleep in Jesus.—*From a Correspondent*.

**MORE ROUPEING FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CLERGY IN EDINBURGH.**—Two more victims to a barbarous and unchristian law have been sacrificed on the altar of the city clergy—one in Howe-street, the other in Pitt-street. In both cases the public had not the slightest notice of the intended sales, advertisements not having been inserted in the papers nor placards posted on the walls. The wretched-looking fellows who had the disgraceful work to do seemed, in one case at least, ashamed of their office. They approached the premises like men conscious that they were about to perpetrate, though in the name of law, a manifest robbery. The red flag was carried behind the back of a poor old man, emaciated and weak enough in appearance to have subsisted during the last six months on food no more substantial than the consolations of his spiritual advisers. Not a broker could be got to make a bid—a proof of the higher morality and self-denial of this class than of the clergy themselves, the temptations having been certainly strong—and as the people in the neighbourhood knew nothing of what was going on, the victims, under threat, it is stated, of the removal of their goods, paid the amounts demanded.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

**THE SHREWSBURY CHURCH-RATE CASE.**—On Friday, in the Court of Arches, the long-pending case of Gough and others v. Jones was decided before Dr. Lushington. The suit was to recover some sixteen shillings for Church-rates, in respect of the repairs of the parish church of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury; and the defendant, who was an inhabitant, denied that he was liable to the rate on several grounds, both as to his residence and the ornamental nature of the repairs. It seemed that the church had been repaired and a rate was levied to make up the deficiency of the sum subscribed—hence arose the question as to ornamentation. Several times had the case been before the court, and the ecclesiastical question discussed at very great length, on the part of the churchwardens by Dr. Robertson and Dr. Tristram, and for the defendant by Dr. Deane, Q.C., and Mr. Foster. His lordship, in giving judgment, took an elaborate review of the whole matter, and pronounced for the validity of the rate on the several grounds. There had been a most expensive litigation, and he felt bound to condemn the defendant in the costs of the proceedings. Mr. Nelson, the proctor for the churchwardens, asked for a similar decree in three other cases. It was discovered that the other cases were to depend on the one now decided, and the learned judge made the same order in the others. Mr. Cross gave notice of appeal to the Privy Council in the four cases. His lordship allowed the appeals, and the cases will be continued before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

#### Religious Intelligence.

**THE REV. JOHN HOWARD HINTON, M.A.**, having resigned the pastorate of Devonshire-square Chapel, will commence his stated labours at Barnsbury Hall, Upper-street, Islington, in connection with the proposed new chapel at Highbury-hill, on Sunday, January 3.

**WESTBOURNE GROVE.**—A social meeting of the members and friends of the new Congregational cause at Westbourne-grove was held in Westbourne Hall on Tuesday evening; the Rev. J. Russell, late of Tottenham and Edmonton, in the chair. There was a large attendance. Mr. Russell gave a brief account of the progress of the church since he had been called to preside over it, only a few months ago, from which it appeared that the attendance had gradually increased until the hall was well filled, and an urgent call made for a new chapel. Mr. William Marshall traced the history of the infant cause, showing that it had originated with a few earnest Independents who felt the necessity of a new interest in the growing locality, and that the church had been formed by the Rev. J. H. Wilson, and consisted of about thirty members, when Mr. Wilson recommended that they should look out for a settled pastor, whom, after many vicissitudes, they had now obtained. They had now the offer of a most eligible freehold site in Talbot-road, which he hoped the friends of the cause outside the church, which was yet very feeble, would enable them at once to secure. They had the confidence of all the neighbouring ministers, and were most united and happy among themselves. The Rev. Mr. Roberts (of Horbury Chapel), the Rev. J. H. Wilson, the Rev. Mr. Roe, and other friends, addressed the meeting.

**TRINITY CHAPEL, POPLAR.**—On Tuesday evening the annual meeting of teachers and friends of the Sunday-schools connected with Trinity Chapel, Poplar, was held; Samuel Morley, Esq., in the chair. A very interesting and encouraging report was read by Mr. Walker, from which it appeared that nearly 6,000 children had passed through the schools during the pastorate of the Rev. George Smith, and that the institution was never more prosperous than it is at the present time. The chairman could not but congratulate himself, as well as his friend Mr. Smith, their esteemed pastor, on

the present position and prospects of their Sunday-schools. He had such a deep conviction of the importance of the Sunday-school, and especially in view of the claims of the times in which they lived, that he could not too earnestly urge the importance of instilling into the minds of the young those principles of their common faith which would preserve them in the right path when they came to be the men and the women of the next generation. There were, perhaps, three millions of children in the Sunday-schools of England, under the care of three hundred thousand teachers, and he held that it was impossible to estimate the importance of such an institution, or to do too much to promote the great object which it was established to subserve. Seeing that so much depended on the Sunday-school, he would urge the importance of choosing teachers from the ranks of those who had themselves realised the power of grace, and of keeping a kindly watch over the advanced scholars, and those who were leaving or had left the schools. He was glad to know that this was carefully done at Trinity Chapel. There was another subject on which he would say a word, viz., the evangelisation of the districts around. He had attended a meeting at Ebenezer Chapel, Shadwell, where reports were read of evangelistic effort which were really of an encouraging character. He knew that there were parties ready and willing to help in that direction, and he was persuaded that, if they could only plant mission chapels and establish evangelistic agencies, and get the larger churches to take a deeper interest in that kind of work than they had yet done, there would soon be a change for the better in the east of London. He knew well that their pastor, Mr. Smith, had his hands very full, and that he did, to say the least, the work of any two men; but still there was a loud call for fresh effort among the dense masses around them, and there was in that church a large amount of Christian character and influence which, when called into exercise, would be sure to tell upon them for good. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. J. H. Wilson, Rev. Mr. Price, Rev. Mr. Rennie, Rev. Mr. Brocklehurst, and Mr. Joseph Maitland; after which the Rev. George Smith gratefully acknowledged the services of the brethren, and especially of the chairman, who had said so much to encourage their hearts and strengthen their hands on that occasion. It was pleasing to think that the Sunday-school had grown from a handful of children, gathered into the vestry of the chapel, twenty years ago, to their present large dimensions, and that all the other departments of Christian effort and benevolence in connection with Trinity Chapel were in a prosperous state. He quite sympathised with Mr. Morley's views as to the need of additional effort, and he would be glad to learn that, besides the city missionary, they had now a congregational missionary, and that they were also looking out for a site on which to promote the erection of a mission chapel, where they hoped, by the Divine blessing, to establish a permanent cause. (Hear, hear.) The meeting then separated.

**THE REV. A. BUZACOTT, B.A.**, has resigned the oversight of the church at Romford; and has accepted the cordial and unanimous invitation of the Pentonville-road Congregational Church, and intends to begin his ministry on the second Sunday in January.

**THE REV. DAVID OLIVER**, of Springhill College, has accepted a cordial invitation from the Congregational church at Llanberis, Carnarvonshire, to become their pastor, and will commence his ministry on the first Sabbath in February.

**PETERSFIELD.**—The settlement of the Rev. John Gooby, late of Overton, Hants, over the Congregational church in this town, after receiving a unanimous invitation to the pastorate, was celebrated by a public tea-meeting, held in the school-room adjoining the chapel, on Tuesday, the 1st inst. Subsequently a statement was made by Mr. R. H. Jackson, one of the deacons, as to the experiences and improved condition of the church during the past twelve months, and the circumstances attending the first meeting, and now consummated union with the new pastor. Cordial addresses were then made by the Revs. H. Kiddle, John McKean, of Harting; and D. Llewellyn, of Havant; and by Messrs. G. Holder, R. Green, J. G. Fairbairn, and the Rev. J. Gooby.

**BRITH, KENT.**—On Thursday week an interesting meeting was held in connection with the Congregational church in this place to celebrate the entrance by the Rev. S. March upon the fifth year of his ministerial labours. The spacious lecture-hall connected with the church was tastefully decked with flowers and evergreens, and about 150 persons sat down to tea; after which a public meeting was held, James Townley, Esq., in the chair. The pastor gave a review of the progress of the cause of God during the four years of his ministry. An address of congratulation was then presented to the pastor by the senior deacon, together with a purse containing fifty guineas, as an expression of the respect and gratitude of the members of his church and congregation. Addresses of congratulation were given by Rev. W. Gill, Rev. E. Davis, Rev. H. Toms, and other gentlemen.

**WEST HARTLEPOOL.**—The Rev. John Charter, formerly a member of Bewick-street Chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was ordained on Wednesday, Dec. 16th, 1863, pastor of the Baptist church meeting in this important and rapidly-increasing town. The Rev. W. Bontems, the founder of the church, commenced the services by giving out a hymn and offering prayer. The Rev. T. W. Grant, of Darlington, delivered a discourse on the principles and polity of the Baptists. The usual questions were



asked by the Rev. W. McPhail, of Hartlepool, and answered by Mr. Charter in a most satisfactory manner. The Rev. W. Leng, the senior minister in the association, offered up the ordination prayer. The Rev. W. Walters, of Newcastle, Mr. Charter's late pastor, gave the charge to the minister; and the Rev. W. Bontems, of Middlesbro', addressed the church. The service was well attended, and excited much interest. Mr. Charter's prospects are highly encouraging.

### Correspondence.

#### "THE PARTY OF ORDER."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—The note of the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, of Brixton, scarcely merits a reply. He charges upon me intolerance of adverse criticism. Surely we may be permitted to expose his errors without rendering ourselves obnoxious to so serious a complaint. Must we prove our tolerant spirit by letting Mr. Brown publish whatever he pleases and keeping silence? He begs me to accept his sympathy. My need of his sympathy is just equal to the sincerity of his offer. Whilst he takes the side of the *Times* against Mr. Cobden, he insinuates a complaint against me for not revealing my name. I fail to see that his attack upon the political Dissenters is less false because the little pamphlet in which it is contained bears on the title-page the name of the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown; and I do not think my remarks in reply to that attack were the less true because I subscribed myself then, as I do now,

Yours most respectfully,  
Ramsey, Hunts, Dec. 21. ANGLO-SCOTUS.

#### THE "CONGREGATIONAL YEAR-BOOK."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—Your valuable paper is read so extensively by members of our denomination that I shall be glad if you will grant me a line or two to advocate the increased circulation of the "Congregational Year-Book." This periodical has now been published for several years, and contains much valuable information which cannot be obtained elsewhere. It contains the proceedings of the Congregational Union, a list of Independent ministers, many beautiful views of new chapels, a succinct account of all our various societies, and a complete list of our newspapers, reviews, magazines, and other periodicals.

If a systematic canvass of all the members of our churches were made, no doubt it would be very easy to increase its circulation from 5,000 to 50,000, and if so you would not have to complain so often and so justly that our people care more about the affairs of other nations than looking after our own rights and our own interests within the shores of Britain.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,  
A CONSTANT READER.

P.S.—It has been suggested that if a few individuals in each of our churches were to form a committee with the object of increasing the issue of our newspapers and periodicals, much good might be effected, and numbers would willingly subscribe for works which before they did not know were in existence.

### THE TRANSPORTATION QUESTION IN AUSTRALIA.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

Apsley, Victoria, Australia,  
October, 15, 1863.

The Australian mail will bring you exciting news this month; for ten years it has not been the bearer of such grave intelligence, and I send this *vid Marseilles* that no time may be lost in your becoming acquainted with our present political situation, a situation it is scarcely possible to exaggerate. By the last packet from home, for at present the old country is still called by that name, the astounding tidings were brought that the Commissioners on Secondary Punishment had, upon a careful review of all the difficulties connected with the disposal of convicts in Great Britain, recommended a return to the old system of transportation to Australia. True, this recommendation is accompanied by the explanation that only Western Australia is meant as the future Elysium of your convict population, but convicts sent there means sending convicts to all parts of this continent. It is scarcely possible to convey an adequate idea of the astonishment and indignation produced in all these colonies by this intelligence; but as South Australia, New South Wales, and Queensland will speak for themselves, my remarks will be limited to Victoria, and to the proceedings of a public meeting recently held at Melbourne to prevent what our Chief Justice, Sir William Stawell, called "a return to a state of things which he could only contemplate with horror." Reserving any remarks for which there may be space and time, I do earnestly implore the home readers of the *Nonconformist* to follow me through this letter; I ask them, not as a favour, but as a duty, to remember that of their own kith and kin there are many, very many, readers of the *Nonconformist* in this noble and religiously free country; and as they read, I ask them to recall the ties, political, social, and commercial, which bind the old ancestral home to this distant land, which equally compel us colonists to turn with fondness to the Jerusalem of our younger days, and to cherish the hope that we may once again behold the altar fires upon our father's hearths; and remembering that they are one with us as we are with them in all liberal and religious convictions, to assist us in our determination to prevent Australia becoming the Mosb, the washpot of the filth of the mother country.

In January, 1788, the first convict arrived in Sydney, then unknown, except as a spot in far distant land, and for years following the population of New South Wales was largely composed of male

and female convicts; so much so that the wit of Sydney Smith was scarcely an extravagance, when, in 1823, describing the inhabitants of Botany Bay, he said, "to sit down to dinner with men who have not been tried for their lives is a luxury that cannot be enjoyed in such a country." New South Wales, with its future capital Sydney, was, and until thirty-two years ago, the only Australian colony known to us, and then known to us not by its exports and imports, but as the enforced home of convicts and outcasts. But as colonisation progressed, and new tracts of country were opened and the seats of future colonies founded, the evils of transportation began so fearfully to tell upon the morals and the finances of New South Wales, that the Home Government, roused by colonial action, wisely abolished transportation thither in 1851. It was in that year that the first government of this colony, Victoria, was inaugurated, and its population was quickly and unprecedentedly increased by the unexpected discovery of the auriferous regions of Bendigo (now Sandhurst) Ballarat, and other places. Then it was that the convict population, or those who had been convicts and were ex-pees, attracted by the well founded rumours of exhaustless wealth in Victoria, flocked to the diggings from New South Wales on the east, and from West Australia at the other extremity of this continent. Describing that period, the Chief Justice said at the meeting I shall presently refer to, "he was compelled to say that he believed that the convicts who had been transported to Australia were the cause directly or indirectly of almost all the crime which was committed in Victoria in the early days of the colony. It was all traceable to what were familiarly termed the 'old hands.'" This strong assertion is amply corroborated by our criminal statistics. The Inspector-General of Prisons has just published a return in which it appears from 1850 to 1854, there were 1,586 prisoners received at the Victorian penal establishments, entailing a grievous charge upon the young colony, of whom no less than 968 were old convicts, many of whom had been in jail under penal sentences two, three, and four times previously, but who were then by the mistaken policy of the Government ticket-of-leave men and women. And from a further return, quoted in the *Argus* of Oct. 2nd last, it appears that in February, 1863, out of 968 persons then in the Victorian prisons, 219 of them were known to have been previously convicted. Can you wonder at Sir W. Stawell adding that if the recommendation of her Majesty's Commissioners were adopted there would be "re-enacted the odious scenes of 1852, 1853, and 1854, which those who were in the colony at the time must remember with horror, which took place under their very eyes in the public streets—frightful carnage, robbery, and pillage; the whole of which he attributed to transportation?"

So thoroughly in those years was the population of this colony tainted with the moral leprosy of Great Britain, so filthy still in this land of freedom were those who had been filthy at home, that every man having a stake in the colony was compelled to be his own law officer, and in the diggings no man slept without his loaded revolver under his pillow. This frightful state of things, representing a disorganised mob rather than a community of citizens, led the colonists of Victoria, in 1849, just twelve years after Sir Richard Bourke had named its capital Melbourne, to resolve that no more convicts should land upon its shores, and since then none have, under the auspices of the Home Government. Ticket-of-leave men from London and Sydney, and runaways from Swan River, have found their way to this land of gold, but no vessels chartered with the felony of the mother country have cast anchor in these waters. Still the Home Government, in ignorance or in defiance of colonial opinion, persevered in their attempt to pour out on the virgin soil of Victoria the refuse garbage of their overcrowded prisons. This led to another movement here. In 1853, when this colony, as an independent province, was only two years old, when it was manfully struggling with all the difficulties of government arising out of a rapidly increasing but most heterogeneous population, its legislature passed unanimously the Convicts Prevention Bill, and such was its determination that it was re-enacted and carried out in the face of Royal disallowance. It was then, in spite of remonstrances and the reiterated assurances of the Victorian Government, that Earl Grey ventured to say words that are bitterly remembered yet, and for which he can make no political expiation; "that the convicts of England who made their way to Victoria would by no means be an objectionable set of men; on the contrary they would prove a valuable addition to the labour market of the colony." What kind of addition they were, the facts given above will illustrate.

And now in 1863, when the colony is strong and flourishing, when amidst all shades of political opinion but one desire for the common weal possesses all classes, and when we are as well able to do without England as she without us, the idea of separation from the mother country is forced upon the country, not because its people are less loyal to the sovereign than in days gone past, but because that loyalty is taxed, by the proposal to reconstruct the experiment of transportation, beyond its forbearance. I can scarcely, however, believe that in the face of the remonstrances that will be brought by this mail your Government will attempt to carry out the recommendation of the commissioners.

Let me give you a brief account of the action taken in this colony. Immediately on the arrival of the report by the last mail a requisition was numerously signed calling upon the Mayor of Melbourne to convene a public meeting in St. George's Hall. That meeting was held on the afternoon of Tuesday, the

29th September, in the above place, our Exeter Hall, the Mayor presiding. Above 2,000 persons, mostly gentlemen, were present. It was not a popular mass meeting, but a representative one. All religious sects, all political parties, the various professions and the powerful mercantile communities of the colony, were fairly represented. The tone of the meeting was almost solemn, reminding one of the old gatherings of the Covenanters or of the New England colonists. There was no boast, no declamation, no attempt at eloquence, much less any hysterical alarm, or going down upon the knees to ask a favour of her Majesty's Government. Calm, firm, and outspoken, it was characterised by great reticence. No allusion was made to the past or the future that could possibly appear like a threat. The people of Victoria at that meeting simply said, "At any risk we will have no more convicts," and they are strong enough to abide the consequences of their determination. The Chief Justice, Sir William Stawell, remarked that his official position debarred him from joining in many political meetings, but for "once he felt justified in forgetting the judge and speaking as a man." In the course of a most able speech, at the commencement of which he deprecated "strong language or violent declamation," he said "he had the honour of being the first Crown law officer of the country during the five most eventful years of its history; since then he had held the office of judge, and in that capacity a vast amount of crime had come before him. With all his experience the conclusion had been forced upon him that a man who had gone through the ordeal of the prisons at home and who was then sent out here,—that if such a man committed a crime in Australia he would never reform. . . . Those who had experience in these matters knew very well that such was the facility of communication between Perth (Western Australia) and the ports of Victoria, that these men, long before their sentences were expired, would find their way hither. There would then be re-enacted the scenes of 1852-3-4, which they remembered with horror, when frightful carnage, robbery, and pillage took place in their streets in open day." The most suggestive parts of this speech lie in the two following paragraphs, in which the Chief Justice dwelt with much earnestness on the two-fold objection to the commissioners' proposal. I quote briefly. The whole account is in the *Argus* of October 2. "This was a young colony, and the whole of its future welfare depended upon its rising population. The interest which the community took in the young population of the colony was shown by the amount which it had expended on education; but of what use was it to establish schools and seminaries, colleges and universities, if all the influence and instruction afforded by these institutions were dissipated by the example of a portion of the class living and associating with them. Perhaps the worst feature in connection with a prison population would be that it would teach young men whose principles were not thoroughly formed, to talk lightly of crime. If crime were not hated for its own sake, if it were excused, if allowances were made for those who committed it, if men who deserved the gallows, or who had committed the most fearful crimes, and were the terror of all well-disposed people, were talked of as 'fine daring fellows,' 'splendid horsemen,' and so forth, the youth of the colony would become familiar with crime; any excuse would be offered for it, and a low tone of morals would pervade the community in general." . . . On another aspect of the question the Chief Justice spoke thus forcibly: "If the report of the Commissioners were carried out, to what would the colony be driven? Why, angry remonstrances, attempts at breaches of the peace, and what was worse than all, objectionable, exceptional, class legislation. Acts would be passed which the men passing them would in their own minds abhor, but which, from their love of country, they would be compelled to pass. And when it was found that men infringed legislation of this kind, what would be the result? An excuse would be offered for them. It would be said, 'Oh, this is an act which ought never to have been passed,' and perhaps the most earnest supporters of those acts would be compelled to admit that such was the case. And when men were led to believe that they might infringe one law, how could they be expected to draw a distinction between the infringement of one law and the infringement of another. He confessed he pictured to himself with horror the idea that such a state of things should ever take place in this colony. He saw it once on a very small scale, and he saw quite enough of it. He knew what was the general feeling of the community then, and he knew the difficulty with which it was restrained. If, as a large community, they were animated by the same feelings now, and felt it necessary to make the same exertions, the effect would be much more serious than before. He would not insult them by telling them that they were loyal; but he would say that upon every occasion when the people of Victoria had had the opportunity of expressing their loyalty, they had done so to the utmost of their power. He did not speak this in their praise; he merely asserted facts, and he would leave even their bitterest enemies to draw their own conclusions from these facts. They remembered the Indian Relief Fund, and he would ask whether, man for man, a larger sum was collected in aid of that fund in any town of Ireland, or in any city or province in England or Scotland, than was collected in this colony? He asked whether the feelings of sympathy manifested in England for the grievous affliction which fell upon her gracious Majesty the Queen, were not manifested to the same extent in this colony? He would remind them also of the joy which was manifested here so recently by all classes of the community on hearing of the marriage of the Prince of Wales. Again, when



the news arrived of the suffering and distress in Lancashire, they could not have given more substantial evidence of their sympathy with that distress than they had done. That their loyalty could ever be broken was impossible, but they might feel angry and sorry, and their first love might wax cold if they were treated in a way they did not deserve."

"Such are some of the salient points in the speech of the Chief Justice, and my apology for quoting them so largely, if such be necessary, is that the great majority of your country readers can have an opportunity of seeing the report from which these extracts are made. And it is of utmost importance they should, for I doubt if anywhere at home, from John O'Groat's House to the Lizard Point, or from Coleraine to Cape Clear, a hundred Nonconformists could be assembled who have not their social and family representatives in Australia, perhaps in Victoria. Of the results of this meeting you will judge by the resolutions unanimously adopted, and the remonstrance which accompanies this mail, to be found on another slip.

Meanwhile I turn to another aspect of the question not alluded to, and very properly so, at this meeting. It had its great speciality, and it adhered to it beyond admiration. It referred to the effect of renewed transportation on cities and on morals; mine is the effect it will have on the country parts and on commerce. To those who know this country, the separate colonies, although they have their separate governments, are one in reality. You can't touch one without touching the other. Send convicts to Western Australia, they will come to Victoria; the mail touches at King George's Sound once a month, and by that means transit is easy to "expirees." Only the other day forty came to Melbourne provided with a complete set of housebreakers' implements, and the Victorians strongly object to such a class of immigrants being "shot on their shores." *Tua res agitur quum proximus ardet.* I live in the interior; 300 miles from Melbourne and thirty-five from a policeman. If I leave this house I travel ten miles at least before I come to another; the interval is a solitary, silent forest. When I reached that house it would be another ten, it may chance fifteen or twenty, miles, before I reached the next station, and so it is throughout this Wimmera district. Yet never was I so safe—never went to bed so securely; as for bolts and bars and locks, we never use them. If ever my cottage door is closed at night it is to keep out cats and dogs, not men. One policeman, and only one, have I seen during my six months of bush life. Yet we have no revolvers, no "Joe Mantons" in our bedrooms. We simply feel that we are safe, and in that delightful conviction go to bed never dreaming of a burglar. In fact, the word, much less the idea, is unknown up here. Yet there is substantial wealth in these parts. I might, but will not, say, the substantial wealth of the colony, and of all the princes of Victoria the "squatters" are the most princely, and they say, "Don't send us then any more sweepings of Portland, Dartmoor, and Chatham. Leave us to grow our wool and sleep at nights securely. We ask no help, but simply to be let alone. We have struggled with great privations to reach for ourselves, and wives and children, our present position. Even now, prosperous as we are, we are content to live in a style of simplicity that would shock a London tradesman, and our houses are constructed upon the primitive idea that 'where there is no danger there need be no fear.'" Such is the feeling, roughly rendered, of this large and important district, and that it is a justifiable one statistics will abundantly prove. I always hesitate to give these kind of figures, as they look dry, yet having had for many years a statistical organ—I know not where phrenologists place it—I will entreat your readers' patience while they accompany me in the following details. My reason for giving them—and I daresay I shall be the only English correspondent that does so—is that the *Saturday Review*, in one of its very recent numbers, has ventured to say of the Victorian people, that they "are a community of speculators overlying a community of convicts." I am not bound to suppose that the *Superfine Review* represents a "large section of the cultivated mind of England," nor that any of the *Saturday* revilers will digest these figures over their Sunday dessert; but your readers will, I know, do justice to them without my adding a single word of comment.

In 1855, the population of Victoria was 207,171, and its imports were 11,568,904*l.*, while its exports were 13,469,194*l.*, for which we had 1,897 ships in our ports. At that time there were only 4,326 land occupiers, who produced but 1,807,764 bushels of cereals; and 1,029 squatters, who owned 13,384 horses, 437,077 cattle, and 4,358,341 sheep.

In 1856, the population of Victoria had increased to 348,460, and its imports were 14,962,269*l.*, of which more than half was from Great Britain, and its exports were 15,489,760*l.*, of which gold was 12,000,000*l.*, and wool 2,000,000*l.* There were then 51 grain mills—39 driving steam-power; 5,276 manufactories; 219 quartz-crushing and 3,540 puddling machines.

In 1857, the population of Victoria was 463,135, and its imports were 17,256,299*l.*, ten millions of which came from Great Britain; and its exports were 15,179,512—imports being less by 400,000 than the preceding year, owing to the increasing development of the internal resources of the colony.

The returns for the next three years I cannot give—my great distance from town must be the excuse. But

In 1861, the population of Victoria was 540,322; and its imports were 13,532,452*l.*, of which eight millions were from Great Britain; and its exports

were 13,828,606*l.*, of which gold was seven and a-half millions, and wool very nearly three. There were then 14,960 holders of land, "small farmers," as we may call them, having 4,090,784 acres, exclusive, be it noted, of all pastoral land occupiers, or "stations," as they are colonially termed. These "small farmers" that year cultivated, of

Wheat, 196,922 acres	} producing 5,845,356 bushels of cereals.
Oats, 91,061 "	
Barley, 3,419 "	
Maize, 1,714 "	

Added to this, on the "pastoral lands," the squatters possessed 84,057 horses, 628,092 cattle, 43,480 pigs, and 6,239,258 sheep. And in this year, such had been the enterprise of this "nation of speculators overlying a community of convicts," that there were 104 mills for grinding grain, of which 86 were driven by steam power; 429 manufacturers alone employed engines of 2,210-horse power, exclusive wholly of the mining interest, which employed 784 steam-engines, the cost of which was 1,411,012*l.*

The returns of 1862 are not yet completed, but in that year it may be stated that the imports were 13,487,787*l.*, and the exports 13,039,442*l.*, of which gold was nearly seven, and wool three millions. The population was then certainly above 600,000, though I must await the forthcoming census returns before it can be stated accurately; my figures are, however, below the mark.

Now it would be great folly in me to say that Great Britain cannot afford to lose even such a colony as this. It would be an insult to the strong, high-tempered principle of the people of Great Britain, to place the question of severance from or of continuance with the Government of the mother country on any sordid footing whatsoever. Into whatever interests the commercial principle may and must enter, I am quite sure that if the people of Victoria were polled, man by man, ay, and woman by woman, you would find them all holding up their hands against any dismemberment of the colony from the Imperial Government. They may or they may not be strong enough or wise enough for independent government; they may or they may not be strong enough and wise enough to do without the governors and the bishops that your wisdom selects for their political and ecclesiastical chiefdom:—they do not wish the question to be put on these issues: they say, "We are a loyal people. We have ever proved so. Even just now we have sent all our artillery and more than 1,000 volunteers to New Zealand to help the British forces against the Maories, and are prepared to send more. But convicts we cannot have, and convicts we will not have, whether they come direct to Melbourne or Geelong, or filter to us through the colonies of New South Wales or Western Australia. We erect ourselves into no attitude of defiance against a Government which has always regarded our interests with affectionate concern: we say nothing against the people of Great Britain, between whom and ourselves are ties indissoluble by any political blunder; but we take our stand upon this once for all. We said so in 1849, we repeated it in 1853, and we reiterate it in 1863, that no convict shall with our consent land on the shores of Victoria. It is not for us to point out the escape from the difficulty into which Great Britain is plunged by her surplussage of convicts: it is enough for us to say they shall not come here." Even the quiet Presbyterian organ, representing, however, a very large amount of colonial wealth and talent (the *Review and Messenger*), says, "If the Imperial Government is resolved to try the experiment, let it do so. But the experiment will be tried at its own peril, and at the risk of seriously disturbing and finally alienating the firm and affectionate loyalty which a million of free British colonists bear to the throne and person of their beloved Sovereign." Here I must close to save the mail: this communication has to travel inland 300 miles. Help us, in the name of justice, with your voice and pen.

#### MEETINGS OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.

##### NORWICH.

An influential meeting of Liberals, convened by circular, was held at the Free Library room, Norwich, on Tuesday evening, "to consider the present political inaction, and the duties of constituencies in reference thereto, in prospect of an early dissolution."

Mr. J. H. TILLET presided, and, referring to the prospect of an early general election, said he felt extremely anxious and uncomfortable at the prospect of having to meet the people again, with the pledges they had given unfulfilled, and to appear as if terms had been used to induce them to support Liberal candidates which had only deceived them. (Hear, hear.) He was very anxious that they should exhibit to the people outside an attitude of thorough good faith and honesty of purpose. He thought, moreover, that an expression of their feeling might tell upon those in power, and induce them to reflect on their inconsistency, and to amend their ways. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) Mr. Tillett then reminded the meeting that at the last general election the appeal to the country was on the question of reform. Lord Derby had brought in a measure which, if the Liberal leaders had endeavoured to make larger and broader, might possibly have been of great advantage and to a very considerable extent satisfactory to the people, but it was evident now that they simply wanted office. (Hear, hear.) A majority was returned against the Derby administration, and in favour of reform, but when Parliament assembled a measure was brought forward, he admitted; but it was brought forward so languidly—(Hear, hear)—and with such a manifest want of vigour and determi-

nation, that members of the Liberal party who were not hearty in the cause were encouraged to raise all sorts of objections to the bill, which consequently fell to the ground. The speaker then contrasted this with the manner in which Mr. Gladstone brought forward his proposal for the repeal of the paper-duty. At first the Lords threw out the bill, but on the second occasion it was made a question of life and death, the whole force of the party was thrown into it, and it was carried triumphantly through. (Cheers.) He considered that the fate which the Reform Bill met was almost invited by the manner in which it was brought forward by the administration. He firmly believed that reform was not only politically but socially of great importance. The middle classes had risen in the social scale with the increase of their political power, and he believed that if the franchise were extended to the industrial classes it would have the effect also of encouraging them. He thought there were reasons why the suffrage should be extended gradually, and he should not be at all discouraged if reform was given by instalments. But he thought that the franchise should at once be lowered to a rental which every working man might have a reasonable expectation of reaching. (Applause.) Referring to the law of settlement, and the inducements which a landlord had to drive people out of his parish, and to the bad cottage accommodation throughout the country, Mr. Tillett said that a person could not speak to any one, whatever his interests might be, who did not admit that these things were evils, and ought to be remedied. And yet, he said, for years we had petitioned Parliament for redress, and no attention had been paid to our complaints. Norwich, oppressed as it had been by having to support hundreds of poor people whose strength had been worn out of them in the country, had gone up to Parliament year after year, but the evil was still unremedied. If, however, a fair proportion of working men were admitted into the electoral body, he believed that such evils would not long remain unheeded. He argued, therefore, that we were bound to enfranchise a sufficient number of the working classes at once to influence the course and direction of legislation for their relief and benefit. The speaker then touched upon the question of financial reform, and inquired—if we were subject to such a frightful expenditure in times of peace, what must we expect it to be in the unfortunate contingency of war? Seventy millions a year were raised in the national taxation alone, and yet he did not see that there was any earnest desire on the part of the Government to meet in Congress, or otherwise for the purpose of bringing about a disarmament, or to propose at their own instance any general decrease in the estimates. Passing on to the consideration of ecclesiastical topics, Mr. Tillett said the question of Church-rates was like the miserable Jew Emancipation question, which would have gone on to the end of our history, if it had not been discovered, almost accidentally, that there was no law to prevent a Jew sitting on a committee of the House. That bill was carried at last by Lord Derby's Government. Year after year Sir John Trelawny sent up a bill for the abolition of Church-rates. The Conservatives had made this a party question, and had "whipped up" all their friends, as if the fate of their party depended upon it. On the Liberal side it had been left to an independent member; Lord Palmerston had scarcely spoken on the subject at all; there had been no Government whip; and although the number who supported Church-rates had not diminished, those on the other side had increased; and at last we found ourselves under a Liberal administration in a minority. Referring to the Irish Church question, which he considered one of the most important questions of the day, Mr. Tillett said that some years ago the appropriation clause was made the rallying cry of the Liberal party, but what had they heard of it since the Liberals had been in power? A few months ago, when the question was brought forward, Sir Robert Peel got up as Secretary for Ireland, and made a vehement speech, defending the abuses of the Irish Church. The large majority of the people in Ireland were Roman Catholics, and this enforced supremacy of the Established Church gave to the former a great advantage, the people associating the Church with injustice and oppression. The cause of Protestant religion was thus injured and prejudiced in Ireland, and he feared that the Irish both at home and in America were working up a spirit of resentment against this country, which might one day result in a disastrous war. In Scotland the vast majority were dissenters from the Established Church, and in Wales there was the most striking evidence of the non-necessity of endowment, three-fourths of the people being Dissenters. In England, he asked, what class of people had done the most to evangelise the poor? The Methodists—particularly the Primitive Methodists—and the other unendowed religious communities. By their energy and self-supporting labours they had spread religion into districts which otherwise would have been as dark as paganism. Seeing that State endowments were proved to be unnecessary to the maintenance and spread of religion, we had a right to call upon the Government to proceed in a course of disendowment; not violently turning out hundreds from their livings as was done two centuries ago. (Hear, hear.) The Whig party, however, actually seemed to encourage a system of extended endowments, and Sir George Grey had said that the proper remedy for the state of things in Ireland was to endow the Catholic priesthood. He thought the time was come to tell the administration that if they wished to secure our support and confidence they must redeem their pledges and act henceforth more consistently with Liberal principles. (Cheers.) We must respectfully



and firmly tell them that we would not go on giving our confidence to those who were not entitled to it, and then he thought Lord Palmerston and his colleagues would begin to calculate the possible consequences, and if they did not act honestly from principle, they would do so from policy. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. A. F. MORGAN said he did not think the working classes could have put forward a more practical claim to be admitted into the franchise than the fact that during the last few years they had established benefit societies throughout the length and breadth of the land, amassed a capital of over 9,000,000*l.* of money, and were annually expending in relief to their sick over 1,000,000*l.* sterling. These undertakings, however, had, he considered, withdrawn their attention from political affairs; but if the people could be induced to fight the battle of reform as they had fought it before, he was of opinion that the Government, or at any rate many persons in the Government, were willing to be pushed forward.

Mr. DOWSON said he would be well satisfied to advance towards reform step by step, and should be glad of such an advance as from a 10*l.* rental to a 6*l.*; but he considered that it was the duty of the Government to originate a scheme of reform and then ask the people to back them. If the Government did bring forward a comprehensive measure, he thought they need not fear for the support of the country at large. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by moving the following resolutions:—

That the apparent indifference of the present administration to the great questions in which the people feel interested, is operating most injuriously on the Liberal cause, and that unless timely measures be taken to restore confidence, the discouragement which prevails is likely to tell seriously against the party now in power in the event of a general election.

That this meeting would specially call attention to the conduct of the Government on the important questions of Parliamentary reform, Church-rates and the Irish Church, and also to the present enormous expenditure which involves war taxation in a time of peace.

That the members for the city (in whom this meeting desires to express its confidence) be requested to make it known in the proper quarter, that dissatisfaction prevails amongst a large section of the Liberal party, and respectfully to warn our leaders in Parliament of the inevitable consequences of a policy utterly irreconcilable with Liberal principles and professions. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. JOHN COPEMAN seconded the resolutions, and expressed his opinion that the blame of the present inaction rested with both the leaders and the masses. He thought that the Liberal party had held office too long, and when he found a representative of Liberal ideas arriving at such a conclusion as, let us "rest and be thankful," he thought it was time for the party to retire for a period to the cooling shade of opposition. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. THOMAS JARROLD thought it was a want of energy and earnestness with regard to politics, especially among the leaders, which caused the present state of things. Men went into Parliament thinking too much of the status they obtained by so doing, and the advantages they gained for their children. If we wished our country to set a high example to the world we must not send men to Parliament who went there simply to serve their own interests, and obtain the entrée to fashionable assemblies for themselves and their wives. He considered that the working classes of the country had shown themselves worthy of the suffrage, and if a heaven of working men possessed electoral privileges, he firmly believed that we should not have so many evils to deplore, and amongst them the horrible labourers' cottages which existed all over the country. (Applause.)

After a few words from Messrs. C. J. BUNTING and MANN the resolutions were adopted.

#### LEEDS.

On Tuesday evening week a demonstration of the Liberal party in the Northern Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire took place at the Queen's Hotel, Leeds, when several members of the Legislature were present. Mr. H. S. Thompson, M.P., presided, and proposed the toast of "her Majesty's Ministers," saying that two of them (Sir C. Wood and Lord De Grey) had promised to be present, but important business connected with the occupation of Denmark by German troops made it necessary that a Cabinet Council should be held, and that they should go to London.

Mr. BAINES, M.P., proposed, "The House of Lords," and, after a long and discriminating eulogy on that branch of the legislature, said:—

The Leeds Working Men's Reform Association had sent to the meeting a message in which they hoped that the Liberals of the West Riding would not forget the cause with which they had for so many years closely identified themselves. (Cheers.) The question of the extension of the franchise had for a time been set aside by the intense interest excited by the European and American questions; but it must come before the community again. It was the cause of right, of justice, of expediency, of safety, and of the highest political wisdom; and if the Liberals of Yorkshire and of England did not support it, they would be in great danger of being confounded with the most stubborn and prejudiced Tories. When the Liberals again went to the poll they should remember the principles they so vigorously and successfully upheld at the last election of the West Riding, namely, a substantial extension of the suffrage, and a foreign policy which was alike favourable to peace and liberty. (Loud cheers.)

Lord HOUGHTON (late Mr. R. M. Milnes) responded to the toast, and expressed his dissent from the "Rest-and-be-thankful" policy of Lord Russell.

We may well allow that the veteran statesman who was a party to the repeal of the Test and Corporation Act, to the emancipation of our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects, to the revision of the Poor Law, to the estab-

lishment of your municipal franchises, and to the great Reform Bill—(cheers)—we may well allow him, in the decline of his age, to say that he wishes to "rest and be thankful." (Applause.) But the nation to which we belong is not a veteran nation. It is young and still fresh, and full of future energy and future hope, and therefore we will say to him,—"Rest and be thankful, if you will. Grateful to you are we for all you have done, and we wish only that there were many like you; but you must permit the nation to which you belong to say that we wish to ascend to still further heights, and to still nobler developments." (Cheers.) The difference between us and our adversaries is this—that we do desire to keep ever open the portals of our constitution to the foot of honest endeavour and of noble aspiration. (Renewed cheers.) We do not desire that these portals shall remain hermetically closed until some evil day they are forced open by an "ugly rush," such as one intelligent individual had prognosticated. (Applause.)

Mr. DENT, M.P., spoke in favour of retrenchment, and the desirableness of having no such "miserable, pettifogging little wars" as those in India, New Zealand, and Japan.

Sir JOHN RAMSDEN, in a few remarks, proposed "The Chairman and the Committee of the West Riding Liberal Legislation Society, Northern Division."

The CHAIRMAN, in responding to the toast, said that he hoped before the question of Reform again came before them the middle classes would have made up their minds to give up a fair and reasonable amount to the working classes. (Hear.) He believed they had fairly earned it by steadiness and intelligence; but he considered such a measure could only be carried by the great Liberal party uniting together and agreeing to merge minor questions upon which they entertained differences of opinion.

Lord F. CAVENDISH, who it is understood will, at the next election, be one of the Liberal candidates for the Northern division, proposed, "The Liberal Members of the House of Commons." He approved the course which the Government had taken on foreign affairs, and said that it gave him great pleasure to think that the struggle in America would result in the downfall of slavery. (Cheers.)

Mr. LEATHAM, M.P., in replying to the last toast, expressed a sincere hope that that evening's banquet would draw closer together the various sections of Liberals, and animate them all with common hopes and purposes, but appealed to those around him to imitate the example of those who had fought the battle of progress for half a century, and the zeal and ardour of those who in their youth had earned the repose and thankfulness of old age.

And do not let them salve their consciences with the untruth that because much had been done nothing remained to be done, and that they had reached a golden age, when the Tory lion was about to lie down with the Radical lamb; for he believed the latter half of this century would witness changes as great and salutary as those which had distinguished the first. While five-sixths of their fellow-countrymen were Englishmen only by courtesy, while Englishmen were debarred from the most honourable of those privileges which were the boast of the country, while the Irish Church still remained a nuisance, while Church-rates still remained unabridged, while they had a war expenditure in time of peace—(cheers), do not let them "rest and be thankful," but rather, with the courage and pertinacity of those who, with prodigious labour, wrung from an unwilling Parliament those great measures of justice and safety which had made this age remarkable, let them apply themselves, if need be, to a reconstruction of the party; let them adhere manfully to that programme which they had set before them, and when they had shown themselves earnest and candid and honest, it would be time enough to complain if those whose interests they professed to serve should any longer show themselves cold.

Sir F. CROSSLEY, M.P., proposed "The Liberal Electors of the West Riding," and in doing so recounted the gains of the last thirty years, especially in connection with free trade and a reduction of taxation, and in reference to reform said he thought the speeches of Messrs. Cobden and Bright had frightened those who had the power of giving reform from giving it. (A voice: "Why?") They had become frightened because these gentlemen made it out that the working men were an injured class, not because they were without a vote, but that they were injured and oppressed by those who had the vote; whereas, as he (Sir F. Crossley) had shown, the legislation of the last thirty years had tended towards the amelioration of the very class which did not possess the franchise. They could only get Parliamentary reform by persuasion, by showing that they had an intelligent class who had no vote, but were fully and fairly entitled to it; and if they possessed these qualifications, they knew that the legislation of many years past had been in their favour, and that, if they were allowed to enter the lists, the state of things would not be very much altered. His opinion was, that by going honestly, fully, and fairly for the object they had in view, they would accomplish it better than by trying to make out a case which was not to be made out. The foreign politics of the last few years had been stirring matters, and he believed he was not going too far when he said the present Government had the confidence not only of its usual supporters, but of the country at large. (Applause.)

Mr. FORSTER, M.P., said there were times in which a country rested upon its past progress; and whenever the country was contented with what it had accomplished, and was not anxious to do anything more, the Government naturally fell into the hands of the Conservatives, who were very glad, because they did not want improvement. It was, therefore, always a suspicious thing when the leaders of the Liberal party

talked much of what had been done instead of what had to be done. (Cheers.)

If they were to "rest and be thankful" as a Liberal party, one thing they would most assuredly have to be thankful for—namely, for a Tory Government. (Hear, hear.) There could be no doubt of that; and, if Lord Russell could afford to "rest and be thankful," the Liberal party could not, with its promises to the working classes of a political franchise unfulfilled. (Cheers.) There never was a promise more completely made by one party to those who assisted them when they wanted their aid, than that made by the Liberal party when they obtained the assistance of the working classes in their struggle. With these promises unfulfilled they could not rest. With the promises that had been made to Dissenters to wipe away Church-rates, and any other civil disability, and to their fellow-countrymen in Ireland that they would sweep away that anomaly, the Irish Church, they could not afford to rest. Nor did he believe that they could afford to rest until they had looked more deeply into the question of taxation, in order to ascertain whether it was not the case, as he feared it would turn out to be, that the poor man, the man of very small income, the man in the lower section of the middle class, was in proportion to his means the heaviest taxed man. (Applause.) These were questions which would come before the House, and give the Liberal party plenty to do.

#### THE CRAWLEY COURT-MARTIAL.

On Thursday, at the re-assembling of the court at Aldershot, Colonel Crawley read a most elaborate defence, which occupies many columns of the daily papers. He assailed in strong terms the witnesses who had appeared for the prosecution, and remarked that their prevarications and misstatements were necessary to establish the characters they had lost. He also bitterly complained of the anonymous slanders which had been applied in the public press, characterising them as perverse malignities, and remarking that such outrages on his character had left a stain on British literature which time would hardly efface. He adverted to the statements which had been made, that the charges against him were of too limited a character, but with that portion of the subject he had little to do, further than that he had desired that the subject should be fully gone into. He was not the author of the indictment, or the framer of the charges. He had been accused of harsh language, overbearing conduct, improper demeanour. If such charges were true, why were they not entered into? Again, he had been accused of base, mean, malicious, tyrannical behaviour, in regard to the Mhow court-martial. Why, then, were not these charges brought against him, in order that, if guilty, he might be punished, and, if innocent, absolved? Then he had been accused of wickedly and cruelly causing three non-commissioned officers to be imprisoned. If he were permitted to do so, he could show why that imprisonment was ordered, and why Major-General Farrell, Sir Hugh Rose, and Sir William Mansfield approved of it. If he owed a grudge against Sergeant-Major Lilley, was such an unworthy feeling shared by those distinguished officers? And if these sergeant-majors were improperly imprisoned, his superior officers were responsible for it; and why were they not standing before that tribunal? Much had been said about the cruelty of the imprisonment. Close arrest was necessarily a severe measure, but it was a much milder punishment than blowing soldiers from the guns. It had been his anxious wish to prove the state of the Inniskillen Dragoons when he joined the regiment, and documents had been asked for for that purpose, but they had been denied to him, and he would therefore take upon himself to assert that when he joined the regiment it was in a state of the most dangerous insubordination. The witnesses against him were not officers of his teaching any more than Mr. Fitzsimon was an adjutant of his teaching. What lessons the lower ranks of the regiment were likely to learn from such officers he need not point out. Under such circumstances he took the measures which he thought necessary. He knew what was his duty, and he did it without fear or favour, and his conduct in this matter he believed prevented a great catastrophe. He would willingly have brought these men to trial, but he was prevented from doing so, and the present court-martial was asked to unlock the mystery, while the key to it was withheld from them. He now came to the specific charges on which he was arraigned. In the first place he was charged with conduct unbecoming a gentleman, and with undue severity to Sergeant-Major and Mrs. Lilley. He was quite at a loss, after the lengthened investigation which had taken place, to know of what the prosecution accused him under this head. The lawfulness of the arrest was not disputed, and therefore he was entitled to assume that the orders he gave were undisputed. He examined in detail the manner in which those orders were carried out to show that he was not guilty of undue or unnecessary severity. In criminal and civil matters judges or sheriffs who put the law in force were not responsible for consequences, and the same law ought to apply in military tribunals. If persons liable to congestion, or who had sick wives, were guilty of offences, and were not amenable to punishment, the sooner they left the army the better. Officer or soldier, married or single, justice must be done. He held that if he had erred, it was from excess of leniency rather than from an exaggeration of severity. Colonel Crawley then proceeded to show that the bungalows were not "bomb-proof ovens," nor like the "hold" of slave-ships; and contended that the death of Lilley was not, to any appreciable extent, in consequence of his confinement. He also asserted that the privacy of Mrs. Lilley was not intruded upon; but if it was, it was



clearly not his fault, but that of Lieutenant Fitzsimon. He (Colonel Crawley) laid stress upon the fact that Lilley had never complained. The conclusion of the address was greeted with loud applause.

He then called a large number of witnesses—officers and others—as to his character as an officer and a man, including Sir G. Clerk, who said he believed Colonel Crawley incapable of cruelty or meanness to man or woman.

On Friday Colonel Horsford replied. He contended that the prohibition against any communication, verbal or written, with Sergeant-Major Lilley was absolutely illegal, and contrasted strongly with the case of Colonel Crawley both in England and India, where he had the first access not only to his own witnesses, but to those of the prosecution. Paymaster Smales had a right—by himself, or by those acting for him—to communicate with his witnesses, whereas Sergeant-Major Lilley was deprived of his right to communicate with Mr. Smales down to the day of his death, and that was done by the arbitrary act of the prisoner himself. But then that illegal excuse did not avail, for Colonel Crawley kept Sergeant-Major Lilley under close arrest after Paymaster Smales's witnesses had been examined in the Mhow court-martial. The Articles of War provided that no person should be subjected to solitary confinement for more than eight days, and in violating this regulation Colonel Crawley had rendered himself liable to be cashiered. He then proceeded to show that Sergeant-Major Lilley and Mrs. Lilley had been subjected to great and grievous hardships by the manner in which the prisoner carried out the order for close arrest. The exercise allowed to Sergeant-Major Lilley was clearly unsuitable, as well as degrading, inasmuch as he had been in the habit of riding about a great deal, and could not walk much, as his feet were bad. Sir A. Horsford's speech occupied just two hours.

On the conclusion of the speech the court was formally closed. The finding of the court will not be made known until it has been laid before the Horse Guards.

In one of the reports of the case it is said:—

So strong had been the impression made by the speech for the defence the previous day that, down almost to the moment at which Colonel Horsford rose to read his promised remarks, there were many who believed the Crown would not exercise the right of reply. The clear and logical argument, therefore, came by surprise upon the court and the public, in which for the first time it was contended that the orders relating to the arrest which Colonel Crawley received were not in their nature arbitrary, but conferred discretionary powers on him, and that, upon his own showing, he might have terminated the arrest fifteen days before Lilley's death.

#### THE STANDING ARMIES OF EUROPE.

It appears from returns published by the Statistical Society of Paris that there are at present 3,815,847 soldiers under arms in the eighteen European States, containing a population of 289,495,195 souls. These standing armies cost annually 3,221,409,545*fr.*, or 84*fr.* per man. It appears further that for every 76 inhabitants one is taken for the military service, and that the armies cost 32 per cent. of the total expenditure of the various countries by which they are maintained. Should the Powers interested in reducing this enormous expenditure come to an understanding, 1,907,924, or half the men under arms, being from twenty to thirty years of age, might be immediately restored to peaceful occupations. The expense so saved would amount to 1,600,000,000*fr.*—a sum sufficient to add 6,000 miles of railway annually to those already existing in Europe. This great improvement once realised, the European Powers might direct their attention to the reduction of their debt. The annual interest of their debt is estimated at 2,300,000,000*fr.*, representing a capital of 57,500,000,000*fr.*, which might be paid off in thirty-six years, or the saving might be applied to the reduction of the taxes which press most heavily on the population. The fact of restoring 1,907,924 men in the prime of life to a peaceful occupation would be one of the most efficacious means of adding to the prosperity of Europe. Calculating the wages of these men at only 2*fr.* a day, and supposing that their pay represents the fifth of the value produced by their labour, this pacific army would create daily produce of the value of 20,000,000*fr.* A great portion of the capital, moreover, now employed in the manufacture of articles required for the clothing and arming of these 1,907,924 men would become disposable, and might be applied to other branches, incomparably more useful, of national industry. Finally, the effect of keeping so many young men at home would be, at least temporarily, to reduce the price of labour, and thus to increase production. The Statistical Society propose in a forthcoming article to demonstrate the advantage of maintaining a taste for industry among so great a number of young men who are now condemned to spend their time in idleness in a garrison town, and to suffer the fatal consequences: and, further, to show how much it is the interest of good order and public morality to maintain the family ties, which are more or less severed by the forced absence during six or seven years of so many young men annually withdrawn from home by the conscription.

**LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.**—There has during the past week been a further increase of paupers in the cotton-manufacturing districts. Compared with the previous week, the number relieved during the seven days ending on the 12th inst. showed an increase of 1,697 recipients.

#### THE EX-MAYOR OF HALIFAX.

Mr. John Crossley was entertained at a public dinner at the Town-hall by the leading inhabitants of Halifax, on Wednesday last. There were present about 200 gentlemen. Mr. E. Akroyd, formerly M.P. for Huddersfield, took the chair, and there were present Sir F. Crossley, M.P., and Mr. Stanfeld, M.P. The proceedings were complimentary, and chiefly referred to the visit of the Prince of Wales, an event which occurred while Mr. Crossley was mayor. Mr. Stanfeld, in returning thanks for the toast of "The Borough Members," said he had spared no labour and no patience in the investigation which he had made into the affairs of that department over which he had been placed. His aim had been not to make out a case for this side or the other, but to get at the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. He would not disclose secrets which belonged to the next statement of the Secretary of the Admiralty, but again say that his object had been to discharge the duties devolving upon him in a worthy manner. Referring to the absence of Sir Charles Wood, who had been summoned to town on urgent public business, he said he would read a letter which Sir C. Wood had received from General Knollys. It was as follows:—

Marlborough House, Pall-mall, Dec. 3.

My dear Sir Charles.—The Prince of Wales has heard that the inhabitants of Halifax are about to place, by subscription, the portrait of their late mayor, Mr. Crossley, in the Town-hall. It would be a source of great gratification to his Royal Highness, in remembrance of all the hospitality he received at Mr. Crossley's house, and of all the pleasure which his visit to Halifax afforded him, to contribute his quota, in common with the citizens of Halifax, towards such a testimonial to Mr. Crossley's valuable services as mayor.—Believe me, my dear Sir Charles, very sincerely yours,

W. KNOLLYS.

In the course of the proceedings, the CHAIRMAN proposed the health of "The clergy and ministers of all denominations." (Applause.) The Rev. W. Morrison responded on behalf of the clergy, and expressed the hope that if any rivalry should exist between them and their Dissenting brethren, it might be the rivalry of who should do the most good in their day and generation. (Applause.) The Rev. JAMES PAIDIE (Independent) also returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN in proposing the toast of the evening, and speaking of the "unbounded wealth of the Crossley family," said:—

They seemed indeed to have found Aladdin's lamp, which appeared to turn into gold everything upon which its rays fell. Nobody grudged them this—(cheers)—and for this reason,—the greater their income the greater their liberality. (Hear, hear.) On all sides, to all parties, to all denominations, they saw the munificent gifts of his friend Mr. Crossley. The very streets of Halifax spoke out in loud tones telling to every man's eye of his princely character. Walking up the streets they saw rows of palaces rising up on all sides, and if it were asked who had caused the change they would say—Mr. John Crossley and his brothers. (Cheers.) Again, there was the magnificent building erected on the verge of the moor. Who had erected that building from the very best motives? Again, it was his friend Mr. Crossley. Subjected as he had been to the greatest of all trials which he (the chairman) believed could fall upon a man, unbounded prosperity, they yet saw undimmed his native meekness of spirit, no arrogance, no presumption, no forgetting of early friends, whom he had known in humble circumstances. (Applause.)

#### Postscript.

Wednesday, December 23, 1863.

#### LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

The members of the Holstein estates assembled at Hamburg have resolved by a great majority that the Prince of Augustenburg should be recognised as Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, and the Federal Diet requested to assist the Prince in obtaining his rights. Nearly half the nobility of Holstein have promised to recognise the Duke of Augustenburg, and signed a document to the effect.

The Duke of Coburg is reported to have intimated that he would willingly permit the organisation of the Schleswig-Holstein contingent upon his territory. The Senate of Frankfurt has voted a subsidy of 100,000 thalers to the Prince of Augustenburg. Meanwhile, a Copenhagen paper states that Russia and England are pushing Denmark strongly to make concessions of some kind, and that when General Fleury applied to his Government for instructions as to whether he should act in concert with England and Russia, he received in reply an order to return to Paris immediately.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies have adopted a motion by 159 against 51 votes, for postponing the law upon the suppression of brigandage till the end of February, 1864.

Some of the French papers assert that the Sultan of Turkey has positively arranged to pay a visit to Paris during the coming April.

Despatches from Breslau state that, in the late serious engagement which took place between the Poles and the Russians in the government of Radom, the insurgents captured seven waggons laden with ammunition, besides a considerable number of prisoners.

#### GREAT MEETING OF DISSENTERS IN EDINBURGH.

On Monday night (says the *Caledonian Mercury*) a public meeting of the citizens who disapprove of the Act of 1860, relative to the stipends of ministers of the Established Church of this city, was held in Queen-street Hall, for the purpose of expressing their opinions on the principles and operation of that act, taking means for obtaining relief from its oppressive enactments, and expressing sympathy with the Rev. Dr. Johnston, the Rev. Messrs. M'Ewan and all others who are suffering in this city for conscience' sake. The large hall was crowded in every part long before the hour of meeting, and great crowds were unable to obtain admission. The chair was occupied by L. H. Stott, Esq., and the meeting was addressed by the Revs. Dr. Johnston, G. T. Inglis, A. Fyfe, Esq., Councillor Marshall, John Miller, Esq., the Rev. W. Lowe, and Councillor Lewis. The following resolutions were adopted:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the principles and operation of the act for maintaining the Established clergy in Edinburgh are contrary to the Scriptural principles laid down for the regulation of Christian men, are intrinsically unjust and oppressive, and inflict a grievous injury on conscientious Dissenters from the Established Church.

That means be taken to introduce a bill into the House of Commons, during the ensuing session of Parliament, to amend the said act, and to relieve the Corporation and inhabitants of Edinburgh from all obligations to maintain the Established Church. That the heads of the draft bill, proposed by the Association for the Total Abolition of the Annuity-tax, be adopted, with such amendments as may be necessary; and that a committee be appointed to take all legal and necessary steps to carry this resolution into effect.

That a petition embodying the above resolutions be prepared for presentation to both Houses of Parliament, and be signed by the chairman in the name of the meeting.

The *Caledonian Mercury* says that Edinburgh has not seen such a meeting of Dissenters since the time great Voluntary controversy.

We commend to one and all the noble address of Dr. Johnstone, the spirited speech of ex-Bailie Fyfe, and the trenchant arguments and utterances of Mr. Inglis, Councillor Lewis, and the Rev. Mr. Lowe. Dr. Johnston, the Messrs. M'Ewan, and the other ministerial sufferers under an outrageous law have had their reward, as honest, straightforward, independent, truthful men always have in a righteous cause. Never, we are certain, in the history of Queen-street Hall did the walls ring with such vociferous and long-continued applause as welcomed these respected clergymen when they made their appearance on the platform, when they rose to speak, and when the resolution expressive of sympathy with them was put to the meeting. It was worth living for, and will be remembered all their days.

The *Mercury* alludes to rumours afloat that some new scheme—some small sprat to catch Liberal Dissenting whales—is to be offered by the Whigs in the event of a dissolution of Parliament, and advises that any such offers should be rejected, and get men of fixed character and principle to represent the city at the next election.

Yesterday the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Alfred, left London for Osborne. The marriage of the Rev. Professor Stanley, D.D., the Dean of Westminster (nominate), with the Lady Augusta Frederica Elizabeth Bruce, sister to the late Governor-General of India, took place yesterday afternoon, in Westminster Abbey, by special licence. In consequence of the very recent decease of Lord Elgin, the wedding was strictly private.

**THE CRAWLEY COURT-MARTIAL.**—It is stated that the finding of the Crawley Court-martial was formally completed on Monday. It will, of course, be submitted to the Horse Guards, and it is expected will be made known in a day or two.

**THE LATE PRIZE FIGHT.**—King and Heenan, together with several of their aiders and abettors, were brought before a bench of Sussex magistrates, at Mark's Cross, yesterday. They were charged with a breach of the peace in the fight at Wadhurst. All the defendants offered to plead guilty if the bench would accept sureties for their good behaviour. This was declined, however, and all but two of them were, after evidence had been taken, bound over to appear at the quarter sessions for trial.

#### MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

There was a fair average show of samples of home-grown wheat on the stands to day, in tolerably good, but by no means excellent condition. The demand for all qualities was in a sluggish state, at fully Monday's decline in quotations. With foreign wheat the market was fairly supplied. In all descriptions, sales progressed slowly, and the amount of business transacted was small, at Monday's prices. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, at late rates. The supply of barley on sale was tolerably large. Both for English and foreign produce the trade was dull, at fully the late decline in the currency. The malt trade was very dull, at fully the late decline in prices. Oats—the supply of which was only moderate—moved off slowly, on recent terms. Beans were a dull inquiry, yet no change took place in their value from Monday. Peas met a slow sale, at the late fall in currency. The show of samples was tolerably large. For flour there was a limited inquiry, at about stationary prices. The Corn Exchange will be closed on Friday next.



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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. Smith, jun."—Our space is pre-occupied this week.

"B."—Not suited to our columns.

"Autonomos."—Respectfully declined.

"Dr. Epps."—Next week.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1863.

## SUMMARY.

THE court-martial on Colonel Crawley has at length come to an end, though some days must elapse before the decision of his military judges is announced. It seems that the address prepared for the prisoner produced so much effect that it was thought the Horse Guards would waive the right of reply. But on the following day the rejoinder of the official prosecutor again turned the scale. The *Times*, however, intimates that the decision will be substantially in favour of the accused—the Court taking "a favourable view of Colonel Crawley's conduct, making ample allowance for the circumstances in which he was placed." But whether or not the Colonel be convicted of the charges brought against him, the trial is calculated to have a wholesome influence in checking military tyranny, and in vindicating the rights of subordinates in the army to equitable treatment and redress.

We briefly report elsewhere the proceedings at a complimentary banquet given by the inhabitants of Halifax in their new Town Hall to Mr. John Crossley, the ex-mayor of that town, whose last year of office was distinguished by his having had the honour of entertaining the Prince of Wales on the occasion of his Royal Highness's visit. It was one of those demonstrations of regard, which great worth sometimes, though rarely, spontaneously evokes. The proposal of a toast to "The clergy and ministers of all denominations," and the letter of the Prince of Wales, gave uniqueness to the event, but the chairman's description of the use made of their wealth by the Brothers Crossley is still more remarkable as an exhibition of princely liberality. Mr. Crossley himself justified the character given him by Lieutenant-Colonel Akroyd, himself a benefactor to the town, by proposing a loan to the corporation for reconstructing the dwellings for the poor which were unfit for human habitation, and other large improvements for the benefit of the population. Such unwearied benevolence and enterprise for the good of others deserve all the honours that can be paid by admiring friends.

A new message of peace, clothed in emphatic language, has been sent from Paris. In reply to the address from the Senate, the Emperor Napoleon remarks:—"I direct all my wishes to the moment when the great questions which divide Governments and peoples will be pacifically solved by European arbitrament. This wish was that of Napoleon when he wrote from St. Helena that to 'fight in Europe is to make civil war.' May not this great thought, a Utopia in the past, shortly become a reality?" These sentences have the ring of genuine sincerity, and indicate that the Emperor has not yet abandoned the idea of a minor diplomatic assembly to discuss at least some of the European questions which press for settlement. The tone adopted by conspicuous speakers in the debates of the Senate, has strengthened the French Government in their resolve to abstain from active intervention on behalf of Poland. Altogether Europe may now look forward to the New Year's reception at the Tuilleries without apprehension.

Part of the German army of occupation has probably by this time entered Holstein, and the Danish troops have received orders to evacuate that Duchy, in order to avoid a collision. The presence of Federal troops will also have the effect of averting the threatened invasion of Holstein by the levies raised on behalf of Prince Frederick in Germany, which the Duke of Saxe-Coburg has taken under his especial patronage. The excitement on behalf of the independence of the Duchies throughout the Confederation continues to be so intense that the various Governments have much difficulty in controlling it, and the Prussian Parliament have actually refused the supplies for the Holstein contingent, because the Berlin Government refuses to violate treaty engagements. What course the King of Denmark will take is at present uncertain. In his speech proroguing the Diet, he says that Germany has no reason whatever to take umbrage at the common Constitution promulgated last month, but he does not announce that he will refuse to alter or withdraw it. In the presence of an exacting Confederation, which could swallow up little Denmark, and under pressure of the great Powers, he will probably have to make concessions which will not only leave present difficulties unsolved, but pave the way for the ultimate separation of Schleswig as well as Holstein from the Danish monarchy.

General Longstreet, after an unsuccessful assault on Knoxville, and finding Sherman rapidly approaching from Chattanooga, has been obliged to raise the siege of that town, and retreat in the direction of Virginia. The event, which is regarded as finally securing the recovery of East Tennessee to the Union, was deemed of sufficient importance by President Lincoln to require special thanksgiving. There is now a pause in military operations throughout America, during which both sides will apparently prepare for a new campaign. While in Georgia the scarcity of men is so great that all citizens of fifteen years and upwards are to be impressed, the Federals have organised a force of 100,000 negroes to use as a supplementary army. Notwithstanding the desperate condition of the South, it is to be feared that the rumours of peace negotiations are no better than a Liverpool canard.

Some months ago the Imperial Government, for reasons of state policy, declined to sanction the immigration of fugitive negroes in the Federal States to our West India colonies. That prohibition—we suppose in view of the waning fortunes of the South—has lately been withdrawn. It will now be in the power of those colonies to supply the mother country with cotton and other articles produced by the free labour of the same race which has heretofore grown them with unrequited toil on slave territory. To what extent the West Indies will become the free home of the contrabands who now encumber the Northern States, remains to be seen.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES.

We have not before us either of these documents *in extenso*. That of President Lincoln to the Congress of the Federal States has reached us, as yet, only in the form of a telegraphic *precis*, into which, however, there can be little doubt, the main purport of the message has been condensed. That of President Davis to the Congress of the Confederate States is compressed into a few sentences only, but, perhaps, as truly conveys to us the mind of the supreme Southern authority as the fuller summary of Lincoln's message lets us into the meaning of his policy. The Northern document exhibits a friendly spirit towards the British Government—the Southern bitterly complains of its partiality, and both rely upon a vigorous use of the sword for bringing the civil contest to a close.

The distinctive feature of President Lincoln's message is the Proclamation which accompanies it, which may be regarded as an overture of peace to all those in the Confederate States who may be pacifically inclined. To all such it offers a full amnesty, and a restoration of their rights of property, except as to slaves, on the condition that they take the oath of allegiance to the Union, and swear to support all the acts passed by the Federal Congress, and all proclamations of the President, not pronounced by the Supreme Court to be unconstitutional and illegal, including the Emancipation Proclamation. If one-tenth of the legalised voters of any rebellious State take the oaths above referred to, and form a republican government, such government will be received into the Union, will be recognised as the legitimate authority of the State, which will retain the same name, the same boundary, constitution, and general code of laws, as existed before secession, and will be entitled to the protection of the Federal Government. But State-governments thus formed will be subject to the

modification made necessary by the conditions of the proclamation. The persons excepted from the amnesty are those who have held office under the Confederate Government, officers of the army above the rank of colonel, and of the navy above that of lieutenant—former holders of judicial positions who went over to the ranks of the seceders—and all those who have treated coloured soldiers otherwise than as prisoners of war. In any case, the Emancipation Proclamation is to be steadfastly adhered to; but State-governments may make any provision in relation to negroes which shall recognise and declare their permanent freedom, provide for their education, and, as a temporary arrangement, be consistent with their present condition as a laborious, landless, houseless class.

Here, then, we have the first formal and authoritative effort towards a reconstruction of the Union. The mere attempt, whatever may come of it, indicates a conviction in the mind of President Lincoln, who necessarily commands fuller and more authentic information of the relative chances of the two contending parties than any within ordinary reach, that the Confederate cause is near upon giving way. If the *Liverpool Daily Post* may be credited, Lord Lyons has expressed the same conviction in a recent despatch from Washington to her Majesty's Foreign Secretary. The noble lord is said to represent that the Confederates are reduced to such extremities that they must very speedily propose an armistice, and to announce that within the next three months the war in America will be terminated. The tenor of these alleged advices is in singular accordance with the prospective conjectures of the *Times* correspondents, both in the North and in the South. President Davis, of course, protests against any such anticipation, recommends additional taxation, and a more inexorable conscription law, but speaks of the losses of the past year in a desponding tone. From all quarters, therefore, the information latterly received favours the conclusion that the South is hard pushed, that the spirit of the people is depressed, if not broken, and that indisposition to protract hostilities from which no substantial and permanent success can be hoped is widely prevalent through the whole of the Confederate States.

Supposing the facts to be generally as above described, President Lincoln's Proclamation appears to us to be wisely adapted to them. In his Message he places his main reliance upon a continued vigorous use of the war power, and shapes his recommendations to the loyal portion of the population on the supposition that much yet remains to be done. But he offers every reasonable facility to the peaceably inclined inhabitants of the Confederate States to rejoin the Government from which they seceded. He excludes from his amnesty precisely those persons whose position would oblige them, *volentes volentes*, to hold out to the last—but he addresses himself to that large class in each of the Seceding States to the members of which certain and speedy success would constitute the only sufficient reason for continuing the war. He does not prescribe to the revolted Governments and Legislatures that they shall come back as such. But he promises even a minority of the people of each State, if their numbers reach a tenth of the constituency, and they choose to constitute a Republican Government, that they shall be recognised as the people of the State in question, shall be amnestied their offences, shall save their rights of property, and shall enjoy such protection as the Federal Government can give them. A proclamation of this sort may fail, it is true—but it appears to point out the easiest path by which a return to the Union may be effected. Every Government thus formed will be a living germ around which submission to the Union, as it now exists, will organise itself as rapidly as the war power breaks down the authority of rebellious governments—will become the centre of a new political formation in harmony with the Federal Union, and, absorbing into itself the vitality of each of the States, will cast off the elements of rebellion to perish in due time of mere inanition.

The proclamation seems to us to contemplate, not so much a reconstruction of the Union as a regrowth of its shattered limbs, from buds to be thus developed, and to which will be transferred, in the process of events and time, the vitality which might long have languished in bruised and battered branches. Should the result correspond with the intention, the final severance of the two divisions of the empire will be prevented, and the United States of America, having purged itself of the old virus, and rid itself of the guilt and demoralisation of slavery, will start afresh upon its mission, whatever that may be. To this no Englishman, unless incurably prejudiced against republican institutions, could entertain a reasonable objection. It was not the extent of empire, and the almost irresistible power which would have been associated with it, that excited the apprehensions of the intelligent, in prospect



of the future of America—it was much rather the constant disturbance which the unrest of a burdened conscience might be expected to produce. The United States, freed from the stain and the curse of slavery, will once more, it is to be hoped, restrict the exercise of its power to its domestic affairs, and cultivate the non-aggressive spirit of the fathers of the constitution. Hitherto the great Western Republic has prosecuted its destiny with a heavy burden upon its back. Mr. Lincoln, supported by the majority of the population of the north and north-west, is determined to make the war subservient to the release of the country from the slave system altogether. No doubt he was forced into that resolution by the exigencies of the contest; but we have in that fact only another illustration of the truth that—

"There is a Providence that shapes our ends,  
Rough hew them how we may."

#### MR. COBDEN AND THE "TIMES."

A WORD or two more on this remarkable correspondence. Since our last week's issue, two or three letters have passed between Mr. Cobden and Mr. Delane, the responsible editor of the *Times*, and the controversy may be regarded as having closed. We wish to offer to our readers the few thoughts suggested to our minds during its progress.

It is now clear enough to all men on which side lay the merits of the dispute. Mr. Delane himself being witness, the intention ascribed to Mr. Bright by the writer or writers of the articles which referred to the Rochdale speeches, was not justified by anything contained in them. Mr. Delane denies that any such intention was imputed to him, and gives a different interpretation to the obnoxious and parenthetical sentence that put upon it by Mr. Cobden, and, we may add, by the public. But that interpretation, besides being ludicrously inconsistent with the words themselves, is utterly driven out of the field by two passages to be found in the articles in which the speeches were originally criticised. Mr. Delane, in a word, convicts himself of the gross offence with which he was charged, by his attempts at explanation—and, driven from pillar to post, he assumes an air of dignity, walks off the stage, and remits the embarrassment in which he got hopelessly involved to the puzzled ingenuity of one of his anonymous hacks.

The next point for observation is the tone of the respective writers. The *Times*, acting as judge in its own case, says "Mr. Cobden has learnt, by an experience which he is not likely soon to forget, that the opinion of this country will not tolerate such a tone and such expressions as he has thought fit to adopt, and that though he may not think such things unbecoming for him to write, the public consider them unfit for the perusal of gentlemen." We do not believe that impudence such as this could have been exhibited by anyone but a man behind a mask. Here is a writer convicted of an outrageous slander upon a public man, who, having done his best to wriggle away from the plain meaning of his own dastardly words, and found it impossible, turns round and lectures his intended victim upon things suited "to the perusal of gentlemen." Was the infamous calumny, thrice repeated, and each time in the most offensive terms that could have been selected, to pass under the eyes of "gentlemen" uncensured, and must the letter which truly characterised it be condemned for the absence from it of the calm propriety of good breeding? Mr. Delane's letters, it is said, might serve as a model for Mr. Cobden, in the quiet, unexcited, gentlemanliness of their tone. But, even supposing it were so, and that the cool malice of some of Mr. Delane's strokes were perfectly becoming to one in his position, it is to be borne in mind that Mr. Cobden was complaining of a wrong wantonly inflicted upon his friend, and that Mr. Delane was only seeking to explain away, or to justify, that outrage. A man hits you a murderous blow, and you turn round upon him with indignant expostulation, to which he makes the coolest possible reply. "See," say some bystanders, "what a difference in the tone and temper of these men!" But to what stage of the quarrel do they apply the comparison? Leaving the original offence out of sight, the aggressor may be easily made to appear the most self-possessed and amiable—but who but a partisan would leave the original offence out of sight? A bungling carver once tumbled a roast goose into a lady's lap, and, with the utmost composure, said, "I'll trouble you for that goose, Madam." "Admirable coolness!" some spectator exclaimed. Yes, admirable indeed, but what was it but the coolness of consummate impudence? We are not told that the lady who was the sufferer was recommended to display an equally courteous spirit.

Conventional proprieties are agreeable enough.

They have their uses. They are not to be needlessly set at naught. But this world of outrage, sin, and crime cannot be wholly governed by conventional proprieties. To call a man a villain would be to use very strong language indeed—language not usually heard in the society of gentlemen. But if a man has played the part of a villain, and you have been ruined by his wicked machinations, what would you call him so as rightly to designate your appreciation of his character? Quiet and amiable modes of speech usually presuppose quiet and amiable ways of life. He who goes about the streets with a bludgeon in his hand, and hits passengers without provocation given, is not entitled to be handled as if he were a well-bred gentleman. He must be collared and dragged to the police-station, and the man who has courage to do it does society a service, though possibly in doing it his demeanour might be a little excited. There are hundreds who loudly condemn Mr. Cobden for saying some very abusive things to the *Times*, who never ask themselves whether the offence of the *Times* was truly described by the terms made use of. Now to our mind, Mr. Cobden's tone and manner may be considered justifiable or unjustifiable, according to the reality or otherwise of the misdeed with which he charged that journal. If, as now appears, the *Times* ascribed and meant to ascribe to Mr. Bright an infamous political tenet which Mr. Bright does not hold, nor could have been fairly suspected of holding, and if this was done, as nobody with the evidence before him can doubt that it was done, for the purpose of ruining Mr. Bright's influence as a public man, then, we say, it was a right thing to do to characterise the act by all the phrases of condemnation which would apply to it, and the more so because society stood in awe of the offender.

The part taken by the newspaper press in this matter has been curious, and is worth a thought. Out of the metropolis the *Times* has not been very influentially supported. Of course, there are provincial journals all over the kingdom which, having been always opposed to Mr. Cobden's political and economical principles, hastened to join the *Times* in running him down. Beyond this well-known class, there were but few country journals who cared to side with the giant of Printing-house-square. Of the London papers, it may be said, that the clubs furnish the great bulk of their literary staff—and a sort of *esprit de corps* binds them together whenever the immunities of the fraternity are assailed or threatened. Public opinion, especially about public men, means with the London press (an exception or two being allowed), the opinion that predominates at the clubs—and the man who has done more for his country, than all the loungers at all the clubs put together, is not popular there. If the *Times* had been guilty of slandering an Elliot, a Grey, or a Cavendish as it did Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden, there would have been a different view taken of it at the clubs, a different public opinion, and a slightly different expression of it by the metropolitan press.

A successful bully, we are sorry to remark, is rather popular than otherwise in London. The crowds of young men, and of middle-aged snobs, who stand prepared to *féte* him, and swear by him, are indefinitely large. When Lord Palmerston snuffs out with some impertinence a member of the House of Commons who asks him a pertinent question, or when the *Times* drops poison upon the reputation of some active politician, it is wonderful and humiliating to observe how great a following of flatterers will delight in echoing what they regard as the fun of the thing. We anticipate some change in the tone of this shallow but demonstrative section of metropolitan society. The *Times* is losing caste—it is successful no longer—it makes mistakes—it comes off second best—it is not invariably the victor. And since an immense number of rather ambitious but not very highly endowed and cultivated people stand by the *Times* for the sake of catching a little of its consequence, we suspect that they will get disgusted if they chance to share its disgrace, and will look out for some safer manufacturer of public opinion.

#### THE LIBERAL PARTY.

THE leading Yorkshire Liberals have been making a praiseworthy but somewhat feeble attempt to shake off their drowsiness. Any signs of movement among the dry bones of the party are welcome in these days of political apathy as the symptom of returning life. It is, perhaps, therefore, scarcely fair to criticise with too much keenness the timid utterances, the complacent backward glances, the expressions of confidence in the Government, the ready apologies for their shortcomings, and the faltering anticipations of the future, which formed the staple of the speeches delivered at the Leeds dinner. There was altogether so much disposition to magnify

the past and expatiate on the benefits which had been conferred on the country by successive Liberal administrations, that the *Times* is almost entitled to make light of this demonstration, and, reflecting no doubt the views of the head of the Government, to demand in somewhat contemptuous terms of the Yorkshire Liberals, "Why can't you 'rest and be thankful'?"

But the Leeds dinner is not without significance as the first collective expression of dissatisfaction at the position of the Liberal party. There was little laudation of Lord Palmerston as the be-all and the end-all of Liberalism. Indeed, his name was scarcely mentioned by the eight or ten M.P.'s who spoke on the occasion. Earl Russell's famous maxim was, with one strange exception, unanimously repudiated; and though the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers" was duly proposed, it was prefaced with an apology for their shortcomings, and the expression of a hope that they would gather some useful hints from that meeting. There was, besides, a general expression of penitence for promises unredeemed, a mourning over the declining fortunes of the party, and an admission that if they were to fight successfully at the next general election, it must be for "a programme sufficiently liberal to escape the taunt that we are not more progressive than our enemies." The one question on which all, with the exception referred to, were agreed, was the necessity of Parliamentary reform. Mr. Baines still asks for "a substantial extension of the suffrage"; Lord Houghton would, rhetorically at least, "keep ever open the portals of the constitution to the foot of honest endeavour and noble aspiration"; Mr. Thompson "hopes before the question comes up again the middle classes will have made up their minds to give a certain reasonable and fair amount to the working classes"; Lord F. Cavendish, the candidate-elect for the northern division of the West Riding, dwelt upon the social benefits that would result from extending the franchise to the working classes; Mr. Leatham urged that the Liberal party could only be united "by some great aim"; Mr. Forster declared that the Liberal party with promises unfulfilled could not "rest."

So far well. It is only a pity that all this is a rehash of an unpopular dish. If it devolved upon the West Riding Liberals to give effect to the programme resuscitated at Leeds, the future would be tolerably clear. But the opinions expressed were individual opinions, or at best those of a section of the Liberal party. They may avail to carry the two divisions of the West Riding, but what effect will they produce upon the Government which obtains the votes of Liberal members, while carrying out the policy of their opponents? If the same course is to be now pursued by the Liberals as was followed after the election of 1859—pledges given only to be evaded—it were better to say nothing more about parliamentary reform, unless those who revive the question are prepared to follow the advice of the Leeds Working Men's Association, and carry out their engagements "without regard to what party may hold the reins of office." Whatever the rank and file of the party may say, we all know that its ostensible head is not prepared to give effect to their professions. The condition of the Yorkshire Liberals is therefore not enviable. In order to show that they have a distinctive creed they were obliged to call attention, not to anything being done by a professedly Liberal Government to realise it, but to a desirable programme which that Government refuse to adopt. If that position be not degrading, it is a very false one to occupy, and the Yorkshire Liberals may see in the taunts of the *Times* the discredit to which they expose themselves.

Unfortunately, while these Liberal promises are being made, and a programme for the future is being pieced out, the Liberal party as such is, as Mr. Leatham says, "perishing." While Lord Palmerston is governing the country with the alternate aid, to him immaterial, of Tory or Liberal support, the Conservatives are organising their forces, and under cover of the political apathy engendered by such a state of things, winning seat after seat. There is disintegration on the one side—the consciousness of growing strength on the other. For present "rest," the Liberals are sacrificing future power, and by their deference to one man, breaking up the party of progress. Now they find it hard to put forth a distinctive programme—soon they may have a programme with only a feeble party to give it effect.

The Yorkshire Liberals are attempting in their way what the Liberation Society, against most unreasonable opposition, are also trying to accomplish—to vitalise the party by giving it a distinct and popular policy. And of the two, any rational man might conclude that the latter are the more practical. Religious equality as embodied in the measures now before the country, such as the abolition of Church-rates, and of the Irish Church, is unquestionably less



distasteful to the middle classes who hold electoral power, than Parliamentary reform. The latter, although virtually comprehending the former, is at present so unattainable as to be almost visionary. Religious equality enlists a large amount of zealous electoral sympathy in its favour. Yet, at the Leeds meeting, at which Liberal members were casting about for a popular programme, Mr. Forster stood alone in indicating that the abolition of Church-rates and other civil disabilities, were acknowledged items in the Liberal creed. Is it not time that Dissenters made their voices heard in this chaos of party relations?

On the same evening when the Leeds banquet took place, there was a meeting of Liberal electors at Norwich, not indeed so influentially attended, but more calculated to produce an impression on the Government, and to raise the party to its proper position of independence. Plain speaking, and honest warning, was the order of the day at Norwich. There was no drinking of the health of Cabinet Ministers, but a plain intimation that the course they are pursuing threatens the ruin of the Liberal party. Objection, not concealed by apologetic phrases, was expressed in formal resolutions to the conduct of the Government, "on the important questions of Parliamentary reform, Church-rates, and the Irish Church," and in reference "to the present enormous expenditure, which involves war taxation in a time of peace," and it was resolved to make known, in the proper quarter, "that dissatisfaction prevails among a large section of the Liberal party, and to warn the Parliamentary leaders of the inevitable consequences of a policy utterly irreconcilable with Liberal principles and professions." A score of such protests would, we are satisfied, produce a more salutary influence in Downing-street, than any number of gatherings of the Leeds type, and, perchance, might have the effect of saving the Liberal party from utter disorganisation.

#### THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

THE Christmas season naturally suggests the topic, and the topic instantly and irresistibly commends itself to our sympathies. Alas, for such as never knew a family circle! whose life and character, in the process of formation and growth, never felt the sweet influences which play within it, and which, more than any other, with the single exception of a hearty faith in Christianity, soften the hardness of human nature, and suffuse it with the element of love! We are probably too inconsiderately severe in our judgment of the myriads who, cast loose from infancy from all the ties of home, drift almost necessarily into crime or, if they escape that miserable lot, are borne away by a strong current which they have no sufficient motive to stem, until they are stranded upon some hard shoal of selfishness, off which nothing less than a miracle in Providence can afterwards move them. We whose earlier days were passed within a charmed circle into which nothing of importance in the shape of temptation could pass, and within which all the best tendencies of our nature found encouragement, exercise, and discipline, are apt enough to forget in after life how much we owe to family influences for whatever of good there may be in us, and how more than likely it is that, had we never known them, we should have ripened into a manhood quite as devoid of all that can give it worth as it shows itself in those whom we most loudly condemn.

With this word of tenderest pity for those who have struggled into adolescence without the benefit of domestic ties, we turn to our subject—the family circle. What a simple, beautiful, powerful institution it is! The nursery and preparatory school of the affections and moral sentiments of our nature—what an incalculable influence it brings to bear upon the development of our best capabilities! Take, for example, the relation of children to parents. Submission to rightful authority; trust in a higher wisdom and a stronger power than their own; love answering to love, meeting it sometimes as a monitor, sometimes as a playmate, and unconsciously becoming assimilated to it; is it possible to conceive an atmosphere more exquisitely adapted to quicken in young souls the innate germs of that moral and spiritual life which is destined to find its highest object in the disclosures to it of the fatherhood of God? We often speak of the sanctities of home. Literally, as well as figuratively, our characterisation of it is true—for it is there that those affections are first elicited, exercised, and expanded which, in due time, and unless perverted by evil, will be filled with the fulness that flows from the Uncreated Source, and that will constitute our sublimer life when the present initiatory one has passed away. The family circle is

a scenic representation to young hearts of that higher world of relationships wherein humanity is to reach its perfection; and the unquestioning obedience we yield to earthly parents, our implicit trust in them, our unreserved love of them, are, in their first exercise, just those susceptibilities of our nature which, in their last, will unite us for ever with the "Parent Divine." Our training for immortality begins with our first recognition of the right to command which the tones of a father's voice express, with the first appreciation of the love which plays in a mother's smile. True, we may frustrate but too effectually these simplest preparations for what we should be hereafter; but it is not the less true that it is in the family circle we acquire those primary sentiments which constitute the very substratum of subjective religion.

No doubt there is much imperfection in all our homes. The family circle, alas, does not exclude either the frailties or the vices of human nature. Everyone's remembrance of it will include some things which he would willingly forget. Where all the parts are tainted more or less, the whole, of course, cannot be immaculately pure. But we speak not now of what is adventitious, but of what is elemental. The relation of parents to children, of children to parents, of brothers and sisters to each other, and so forth, may be turned to evil account—but how good they are in themselves, and what a vast potentiality of good they comprise! The cases are quite exceptional, we verily believe, in which the normal advantages are overtopped by the accidental evils—in which it is not, all things considered, better for a man to have been subject to those relations, whatever the mischiefs that may have been inflicted upon them by their means, than it would have been if he had never known them. In the vast majority of instances, however, men and women will see cause enough to be thankful that in their earlier years they had some experience of parental control, some taste of the enjoyment which is conferred by parental fondness, and that they learnt something of life, both as to what is sweet and bitter in it, from intercourse with brothers and sisters. It requires but little reflection to bring home to them the consciousness that their home training has made them more like what men and women are capable of becoming, and ought in the fulfilment of their destiny to become, than they would have been without it.

But let us pass now from the ethics to the aesthetics of the subject. Let us dwell for a moment on, not the use but the beauty, not the duties but the charms, of the family circle. Most of our readers, we take it, will go with us enthusiastically here. "Home, sweet home!" is there any amongst them whose eyes have not brimmed over with tears when that well-known air has recalled the tranquil bliss from which circumstances may have exiled him, temporarily or for ever? How deep into our hearts sinks a mother's love! What a sacredness it attaches to itself, and how the recollection of it lingers to the latest day of life! Ay, and can any of us, even when we have advanced far into the valley of declension, and are borne down by cares, and have originated new and nearer relationships, can any of us take a retrospective glance at the circle in which our childhood was passed, without feeling revived within our bosoms that uniqueness of interest which we took in all that pertained to brothers and sisters? The emotions stirred in us by such reminiscences are unsought-for evidence of the bliss diffused by the scenes and facts to which they relate. Happy are they whose family circle yet remains unbroken! Let them prize as they ought a condition which they can never quit, even in obedience to duty, without a sharp pang of regret!

Christmas day is close upon us—the high festival of family circles. Fathers and mothers will gather their youngsters and their little ones round their hearths, and the spirit of domestic affection will hold its carnival. The old will grow young again—the young will push themselves into closer communion with the old. We wish them all a merry Christmas. May a pure and chastened joy preside over all such reunions! To some the day will bring with it painful memories. They have our tenderest sympathy; but even they, we trust, will not forget the sunny days which were granted them before the sky was overcast, nor wholly exclude from their thoughts the consolations which family life, religiously interpreted, naturally suggests. From the lower to the higher forms of love and duty, is the established law of our progression, and they who guide their aspirations and frame their conduct in accordance with that law, will rejoice in the belief that the family circle gradually vanishes from view only to widen into that circle of better and even more intimate communion, which takes in the pure and the good of all ages and of both worlds.

#### Foreign and Colonial.

##### THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The advices from New York extend to Dec. 12.

##### PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S MESSAGE.

Both Houses met on the 7th. Mr. Ethelridge, the Speaker of the last House of Representatives, refused to enrol the names of a number of the new members because of the absence from their credentials of the specific statement that they were elected in accordance with the laws of their States respectively, or the United States, as is required by an act of Congress passed on the 3rd of March last. The objection, however, was overruled by a vote of the House, and all the members were admitted to their seats. The election of Speaker was then proceeded with, which resulted in favour of Mr. Colfax, of Indiana, Republican, by a vote of 101 to 52 for Mr. Cox, of Ohio, Democrat. Mr. Edward Macpherson, of Pennsylvania, Republican, was elected clerk by 101 votes against 69 cast for Mr. Emerson Ethelridge, Democrat. Mr. A. G. Ordway, of New Hampshire, was chosen Sergeant-at-Arms. Congress has unanimously passed a vote of thanks and voted a medal to General Grant.

President Lincoln's Message says that the British Government, as was further expected, has exercised its authority to prevent the departure of new hostile expeditions from British ports. The French Emperor, by similar proceedings, promptly vindicated the neutrality which he proclaimed at the beginning of the contest. Blockade questions have been discussed and accommodated in a spirit of frankness, justice, and national goodwill. Our prize-courts, by the impartiality of their adjudication, have commanded the respect and confidence of maritime powers. An important question, involving the maritime jurisdiction of Spain in the waters surrounding Cuba, has been debated, without reaching agreement, and it is proposed to refer the question to the arbitration of a friendly power. The rights of aliens in America are partially defined by treaties with some Governments. In no instance, however, is it stipulated that, in the event of civil war, foreigners residing within the lines of the insurgents are to be exempted from the rule which classifies them as belligerents, in whose behalf their Governments cannot expect any privileges or immunities distinct from that character. Such claims, however, have been put forward in behalf of foreigners residing here the greater part of their lives. The Message states that the receipts during the year from all sources, including loans and the balance in the treasury at the commencement of the year, were 900,000,000 dollars. The disbursements during the year were 895,000,000 dollars; the receipts from the customs were 69,000,000 dollars, and from the internal revenue 37,000,000 dollars. The amount received from loans was 776,000,000 dollars. The disbursements in the War Department amounted to 590,000,000 dollars, and for the Navy Department to 63,000,000 dollars. Over 1,000 vessels have been captured since the blockade was instituted. The naval force consists of 588 vessels, seventy-five of which are iron-clads. 100,000 freed slaves are in the Federal service, half of them bearing arms. Mr. Lincoln declares that whilst he remains in his present position he shall not attempt to retract or modify the emancipation proclamation, nor return to slavery any person who is freed by that proclamation, or by any act of Congress. The Message further says:—

In the midst of other cares we must not lose sight of the fact that war power is our main reliance, and that to that power alone we can look for a time to give confidence to the people in contested regions that the insurgent power will not again overrun them. Until that confidence is re-established little can be done anywhere for what is called "reconstruction." Hence our chief care must be directed to the army.

The Message is accompanied by a proclamation, the points of which are set forth thus:—"Mr. Lincoln proffers an amnesty to all the people of the Confederate States, except the heads of the Government, the principal military and naval officers, and those who have been concerned in treating coloured persons captured in the Federal army other than as prisoners of war, upon the condition that they will swear to support the Constitution and the Union, all the Acts of Congress, and all proclamations of the President made during the war, until such acts and proclamations may be declared void by the Supreme Court. He further proclaims that wherever the citizens of any of the seceded States not less in number than one-tenth of the votes cast in such States in the Presidential election of 1860 shall re-establish a local Government which shall not contain their prescribed oath, the State shall be readmitted to the Union."

The proclamation contains the following additional provisions for State Governments formed in accordance with the terms of the proclamation:—"State Governments may make any provision in relation to negroes which shall recognise and declare their permanent freedom, provide for their education, and which may yet be consistent as a temporary arrangement with their present condition as a laborious, landless, houseless class. State Governments may retain the name of the State, and the same boundary, constitution, and general code of laws as existed before the rebellion, subject to the modification made necessary by the conditions of the proclamation."



## PRESIDENT DAVIS'S MESSAGE.

The Confederate Congress was opened at Richmond on the 7th, when the President's message was delivered. Mr. Davis speaks despondingly of the loss of Vicksburg, Port Hudson, and many other points. There has been no improvement in foreign relations since last January's message. On the contrary, there is a greater divergence in the conduct of European nations, assuming a positively unfriendly character. The marked partiality of England in favour of the Federals is strongly evinced in their decisions regarding the blockade, as well as in their marked difference of conduct on the subject of the purchase of supplies by both belligerents. This difference has been conspicuous since the commencement of the war. Mr. Davis, referring to Earl Russell's speech, that Englishmen would have been for ever infamous if, for the sake of their interests, they had violated the law of nations, and made war with the slaveholding States against the Federal States, says:—

Earl Russell would probably have omitted his remark regarding the slaveholding States if he had remembered that those States were when colonies made slaveholding by the direct exercise of England's power, whose interests in the slave-trade were then supposed to require that her colonies should be slaveholding. Prompt and efficacious remedy for the present condition of the currency is necessary to secure the full performance of the operations of Government. Mr. Davis recommends taxation. The currency must be promptly reduced to prevent the present inflated price reaching more extravagant rates. Mr. Davis recommends the abolition of the substitute system and the modification of the exemption law, so that the army may be largely increased as rapidly as possible. He regrets the suspension of the exchange of prisoners, and that the communication with the trans-Mississippi districts is so greatly obstructed. He says:—

The enemy refuse proposals for the only peace possible between us. The only hope for peace now is in the vigour of our resistance.

Whatever obstinacy may be displayed by the enemy in his desperate sacrifices of money, life, and liberty, in the hope of enslaving us, experience of mankind has too conclusively shown the superior endurance of those fighting for home, liberty, and independence, to permit any doubt of the result.

## RETREAT OF LONGSTREET.

General Foster, under date of Tazewell, Tennessee, the 7th, officially informs General Halleck of the raising of the siege of Knoxville by General Longstreet. General Sherman's advanced guard of cavalry reached Knoxville on the 3rd, and on the night of the 4th General Longstreet withdrew his forces towards Bristol, on the line of the East Tennessee Railway, following the course of the Holston river. On the 6th General Sherman's main body arrived at Knoxville, when his cavalry, as well as that of General Foster, were sent in pursuit of the Confederates. Skirmishing with General Longstreet's rearguard has commenced among the Clinch Mountains. Longstreet was last heard of at Morristown, where, it was said, he would probably make a stand. He lost 600 men at Knoxville.

On the 7th President Lincoln issued a proclamation announcing the raising of the siege of Knoxville, and, esteeming it to be of great national consequence, recommended all loyal people upon receipt of the information to assemble at their places of worship and render homage to the Almighty for his great advancement of the national cause.

The failure of the Confederate attack upon Knoxville on the 29th ult. is attributed to the falling back of a portion of the assaulting columns under General Anderson, who received orders to do so, which proved to have been forged.

## CHATTANOOGA AND THE SOUTH-WEST.

Chattanooga despatches report that the Confederates captured fifteen waggons of a Federal forage-train near Harrison, in Tennessee, on the 4th. Richmond papers of the 5th state that General Bragg has undoubtedly been relieved of the direction of the Confederate army in Northern Georgia, and that General Hardee is temporarily in command. It is said that General Johnston will be Bragg's permanent successor.

According to the *Richmond Enquirer*, in West Tennessee an army is springing up like magic to resist the invading foe, and to defend West Tennessee, West Kentucky, and North Missouri to the Tallahatchie, all of which districts have been formed into a department, to be known as the Department of the West Tennessee, under the command of Colonel R. P. Richardson.

The Federal losses at Chattanooga are now estimated at 4,500 men. The Federals captured 6,000 prisoners and 46 guns.

Southern despatches from Dalton to the 8th inst. state that the Federal cavalry had been driven a mile beyond Ringold. Some despatches assert that the Federals have been routed at Sellersville, Kentucky, with a loss of numerous prisoners, and that the Confederates have made a raid on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, near Pocahontas, capturing 400, and killing 300 Federals.

The Federals were preparing for the winter defence of Chattanooga and Look-out Mountain. Steamboats were running to Kingston, and a railroad was being completed to Bridgeport.

Bishop Polk had been ordered by the Confederate Government to command the department of the Southern Mississippi. General Forrest was said to be encamped fifteen miles from Holly Springs with 10,000 men. The Confederate General Dick Taylor, with a force of 10,000 men, was patrolling the banks

of the Mississippi, and had caused almost an entire suspension of the commerce of that river.

## VIRGINIA.

General Lee's troops had re-established their signal stations upon three eminences overlooking the country occupied by General Meade, who has gone into winter quarters at Brandy station, above Culpepper. The report that Meade had been superseded by General Pleasanton had been authoritatively denied.

## CHARLESTON.

Advices from Charleston to the 8th state that the Federals had ceased firing on Fort Sumter, and were altering their batteries, entrenching Fort Gregg to the eastward. The monitor *Weekawken*, lying at the entrance of Charleston harbour, sunk suddenly at her anchorage during a gale. She went down very rapidly. Four engineers and twenty-six of her crew were drowned. She is lying in five fathoms of water, and will be raised, when the cause of her sinking will be ascertained.

Southern papers assert that Gilmore's Greek fire is easily extinguished. General Beauregard visited Fort Sumter upon the 2nd inst.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

General Banks has returned to New Orleans.

The Senate of Georgia had ordered the enrolment of all citizens over fifteen years of age for the defence of the State.

President Lincoln has pardoned General Gann, of Arkansas, and returned him his property, except the negroes, under his new amnesty proclamation.

President Lincoln's health is improving.

The merchant steamer *Chesapeake* was seized while on the voyage from New York to Portland by sixteen Confederates, who were passengers on board; one of the engineers was killed, and another and the chief mate wounded in the struggle for the possession of the vessel. After overpowering the captain and crew, the Confederates steered to St. John's, New Brunswick, and all but the chief engineer and the captain were landed. The steamer then sailed in an easterly direction. Several Federal vessels have been sent in pursuit. The cargo of the *Chesapeake* consisted for fat for a Southern port, it being intended to run into Wilmington.

Captain Pooker, formerly of the privateer *Retribution*, went on board the *Chesapeake* at St. John's to take command of her.

Refugees from Northern Georgia report that in all that region a reign of terror exists, and that the rebel authorities are conscripting males and everything else they require for their shattered troops. In obedience to the clamour for the removal of Bragg, Jeff. Davis had displaced his favourite, and appointed General Hardee in his stead.

Strong abolition resolutions have been introduced in the Missouri Legislature.

Senator Toombs has delivered an address to the Georgia Legislature on the Southern situation. He said there was cause for great anxiety but none for despondency. He denounced the course the Government took in carrying out the conscription and obtaining supplies.

A Liverpool paper announces, authoritatively, that Lord Lyons has written to Earl Russell to the effect that the American war will be ended within the next three months. The Confederates being in extremities will speedily have to sue for an armistice. The statement needs confirmation.

The Conservative Union National Committee, at a meeting held in Cincinnati, nominated General McClellan for the next Presidency.

General Butler had issued a proclamation, saying—The recruitment of coloured troops having become a purpose of the Government, and as the best use during the war for able-bodied coloured men both for themselves and their country is to be soldiers, Government officers must not employ negroes to work at higher wages than soldier's pay. Every possible provision will be made for negroes.

**BRAGG'S DEFEAT.**—The *Richmond Whig* of Nov. 30 opens one of its lamentations thus:—"For the first time in a great battle Confederate troops have been put to flight by the enemy. There is no doubt we were largely outnumbered, but this disadvantage was greatly compensated by our superiority of ground. We held Look-out Mountain and Missionary Ridge, positions very strong naturally, and rendered, we presume, still stronger by art. General Bragg must have considered them well nigh impregnable, else he would not have chosen the occasion when the enemy, all along superior to him in number, had been heavily reinforced, to send off a large detachment of his own army on a distant expedition. There will hardly be any division of opinion as to the cause of the unwonted and almost painful spectacle of a whole wing of a Confederate army giving way under the onset of their Yankee assailants, and breaking into a disorderly flight." In another article the same paper says:—"In the judgment of some it might be good policy to endeavour to belittle the importance of this defeat. We do not recognise the propriety of misleading the public where so much is at stake. We are frank to confess that we are filled with very grave apprehension as to the consequences that may flow from this reverse. If the army under Bragg could not hold out Look-out Mountain and Missionary Ridge, we are forced to ask ourselves what position is there between them and Atlanta, or the ocean, they can hold."

**THE NEW CONFEDERATE COMMANDER IN THE SOUTH-WEST.**—There is a rumour this morning that Hardee has been appointed to the vacant place, but there is not even as much to be said for him as for Longstreet. He commanded the heights of Missionary, which were stormed by Thomas at Chatta-

nooga, and has on other occasions behaved tolerably well in charge of a division. His only other title to distinction is his having invented a new system of drill, which has been for some years in use in the United States army.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

**THE CONTROVERSY ABOUT THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS** still remains unsettled, and the treatment of the Federal prisoners at Richmond remains unchanged. The Washington Government holds now about 40,000 Confederate prisoners, the Confederates about 13,000, and the Federals offer to exchange the 13,000 and hold the others, but the Confederates refuse to consent to this, unless the remainder are paroled and set at liberty. To this the Federals will not accede, for several reasons. First and foremost they are bound, both by solemn promise, and by humanity and self-respect, to accord to the negro soldiers in their service the same measure of protection which they accord to the white ones. Now, Jefferson Davis has also solemnly announced that all blacks taken in arms in the Federal ranks shall be dealt with as slaves taken in insurrection, and their white officers will be handed over to the State authorities for trial under the State laws. The negro soldiers or teamsters who have been already taken have therefore been either massacred on the spot, or else sold into slavery, and all information as to their fate is refused by the regular officials. Of course Mr. Lincoln is bound, as long as this practice is persisted in, to keep himself in a position to retaliate with vigour and effect. In the second place, the guerrillas in Tennessee and Kentucky have for the last year been in the habit of rushing into the towns and villages that happen to be inside the Federal lines, and compelling all the male inhabitants, young and old, to give their paroles not to serve against the Confederacy, and then galloping away. The paroles are forwarded to the Confederate War-office, and solemnly put on the books there, and then presented to the Federal authorities for exchange. If the latter refuse to acknowledge their validity, the Confederate officials take the law into their own hands, declare a corresponding number of their own paroled men released from their paroles, and direct them to return to their duty. In this way, the greater portion, if not all, of the garrison of Vicksburg captured by Grant has again been put in the field. An entire brigade belonging to it was captured at Chattanooga, and the question is now under discussion, what shall be done with them. By the laws of war they are liable to be shot. The fact is that the Confederacy is very hard pressed for men, and if the slaveholders were scrupulous as to their manner of getting them, there would have been a great change in their character of late. Unscrupulousness and perfidy have been the most marked features of their dealings with the North, ever since the slavery conflict began.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

## FRANCE.

The debate on the Address in the Senate closed on the 18th. The Address, in its entirety, was agreed to by 125 votes. Many members took part in the discussion of the preceding days. In reference to Mexico, M. Chaix d'Estange, the Procureur-Impérial, in reply, stated that the Government hoped soon to see the establishment of a regular Administration in Mexico, and approached that object at a firm, resolute, and rapid pace. (Great applause.)

There was considerable debate on the paragraph relative to Poland, but Prince Napoleon was not among the speakers, and no vote was taken. M. Ségur d'Aguesseau expressed the profound sympathy entertained by France for Poland—the rampart of Europe against barbarian invasion, but he expressed entire confidence in the Emperor. The Marquis de Larochefoucauld protested against the principle that it was the duty of France to go to war for the Poles. France had embarked upon sufficient adventures, and wished to engage in no more. The part played by England in the negotiations respecting Poland was to break off our alliance with Russia. The Catholics who preached war for Poland would be contented if the entry of Victor Emmanuel into Rome were the prelude of the campaign. The speaker contested the commission of cruelties upon the part of the Russians, and condemned the Secret Government at Warsaw. M. Bonjean, in a vehement speech in favour of Poland, maintained that it was the interest of France and of civilisation not to permit the destruction of the Polish nationality. M. Dupin, sen., in a speech which was loudly applauded, blamed the excesses of which Poland is the victim:—

"But," asked the speaker, "should France allow herself to be dragged into a war for Poland, as she has done for Mexico? No! Once was quite enough. Notwithstanding the incitements from abroad and from the opposition press, France will not go to Poland. It would be an adventure against which the Emperor will guard us. If the Emperor's appeal to Europe was not heard, France must not risk her destinies in a foreign cause."

M. Beaumont proposed that the passage in the Address relating to England should be suppressed, and maintained that, in consideration of her conduct, England did not deserve to be named in the Address of the Senate.

On Monday the Emperor received the deputation of the Senate with the Address. He read his reply, which is very short and pacific. In substance it is as follows:—The Emperor had proposed to introduce a system of arbitration, to settle the differences of Europe and arrange difficulties between Sovereigns and nations. He shares the opinion expressed by his uncle—that all wars between the States of Europe are



civil wars. The reply of the Emperor was much applauded by the Senators.

The report of the committee upon the bill for the loan will be read to-day. MM. Jules Favre, Thiers, Plachon, Marie, Martel, and other members, have proposed an amendment limiting the amount of Treasury bonds to be issued in 1864 to 100,000,000*fr.*

It is asserted that the Government has decided upon raising the new loan of 300,000,000*fr.* by public subscription.

It appears that the French Government is still making efforts to bring about the meeting of a Congress. M. Drouyn de Lhuys has proposed a preliminary conference of Ministers.

#### AUSTRIA.

It is asserted upon reliable authority that the Ministerial crisis may be regarded as ended for the present. No doubt is entertained that Herr von Schmerling will remain in the Ministry.

#### PRUSSIA.

On the 18th, the Chamber of Deputies agreed to the address of M. Virchow, proposing a more active policy in Holstein, by 207 to 107 votes. In the course of the debate, Herr Von Bismark said that the object of the loan was clear. The Government had wished neither to sacrifice German soil nor German right, but the House could not dictate to the Government a programme suitable to all eventualities. He continued:—

We are unable to express ourselves more fully with regard to the policy Prussia intends to pursue. It appertains to the executive to adopt the right course. If we desire war we can have it any day. Should the latest private intelligence from Copenhagen be confirmed the Government will soon move at the Diet that the preparations for war shall be carried on upon a more extensive scale, and we shall in that case ask for a larger credit.

The Minister, in conclusion, said:—

In refusing the means for the fulfilment of Prussia's federal duties, and for the defence of the sea-coast, the House undertakes a heavy responsibility.

A proposal that Prussia should withdraw from the London treaty has met with but little support in the Senate, and a moderate address to the King was almost unanimously adopted.

#### THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

The Danish Diet closed on the 21st with a message from the King, in which he maintains that the constitution of the 18th November rests upon the same basis as that of the present constitution for the whole monarchy. The message then states that his Majesty intended to give to his Federal provinces the same freedom and independence, thus rendering their connection with the monarchy possible.

The new constitution was no obstacle to this end. It would therefore be a misunderstanding on the part of the Powers not to recognise the treaties on that account.

The King then proceeds to say:—

A desire to dismember the Danish monarchy has arisen in Germany. We hope, however, that Europe will nevertheless maintain our right to the hereditary succession. We have fulfilled every resolution of the Federal Diet concerning the Federal provinces; German troops have occupied Holstein and Lauenburg, although the latter has recently testified its satisfaction and loyalty to Denmark. Although we do not recognise the execution on the part of the German Confederation as justifiable, we withdraw our troops to this side of the Eider, in order to avoid a collision.

Lord Wodehouse remains at Copenhagen. General Fleury has left, his mission being ended.

The Swedish Government still declines to sign the defensive treaty with Denmark prepared in July last, but is said to have informed the Powers that the policy of Sweden would not allow her to see the violation of the Eider frontier without taking active measures.

It is stated that the Federal Commissioners in Holstein have received instructions to administer the existing laws without prejudice to the rights of the Sovereign, and with as little inconvenience to the inhabitants as possible.

The army of occupation, 6,000 Saxon troops, and some Hanoverian hussar regiments, will enter Holstein upon the right bank of the Elbe. Five thousand Prussians will at the same time be stationed in Lübeck, and 5,000 Austrians in Hamburg. About 6,000 Hanoverian troops, composing the first corps of reserve, in case of resistance on the part of the Danes, will remain upon the left (Hanoverian) bank of the Elbe. The second reserve, consisting of 20,000 Austrians and Prussians, will for the present remain at home. Field-Marshal Wrangel will have the chief command of the entire troops, Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia commanding the Prussian contingent.

Popular movements in favour of Prince Frederick continue all over Germany, and subscriptions for that object are freely given. 300 German representatives at Frankfurt have adopted strong resolutions in favour of carrying out the rights of the Duchies and those of their legitimate Duke. The Hamburg Senate has voted 1,000,000 marks banco for the defence of the city, and intends to propose to the civic representatives a vote in favour of the Augustenburg succession in Holstein.

At Copenhagen on the 18th the funeral of the late King took place. The royal corpse was conveyed to Roskilde Cathedral with extraordinary solemnities. Immense numbers of people were present at the ceremony. The royal coffin was followed by a representative of the King of Sweden and a numerous deputation of Swedish hussars and Swedish students attended in the procession.

#### POLAND.

An order of the Government has been published ordering all the landed proprietors, farmers, and stewards of estates to leave Warsaw within seven days, under a fine of twenty-five roubles for every day they may delay their departure. It is also decreed that no persons are allowed to leave their usual residence without permission of the military commander. Loyal subjects only are allowed to travel.

Another proclamation of the Polish National Government has been published in Warsaw, in which the origin and the object of the insurrection are again stated. The proclamation points out as principles of the movement—"Equality of all inhabitants before the law and free landed property for the peasantry." The proclamation states in conclusion that the insurrection will be continued with undiminished vigour.

The *Osas* of Cracow having been suppressed, a new journal *Chwila* (*Moment*), has appeared in its place.

Numerous small engagements in Konin, Podlachia, and other districts are reported. They are said to have been in favour of the Poles. Many insurgent leaders have been hanged.

#### GREECE AND TURKEY.

Advices from Athens state that the Greek National Assembly has postponed all discussion concerning the Ionian Islands to an undefined period. A deputation from the Ionian Parliament, charged with bringing about an understanding upon the subject of union, is shortly expected to arrive in Athens. Insecurity in Athens and the provinces is increasing.

Intelligence from Constantinople states that the reply of the Sultan to the Emperor Napoleon's invitation to a congress has been despatched to Paris. The Sultan states that he will attend the Congress provided the integrity of Turkey remain undisturbed.

The immigration of the Circassians into Turkey is upon the increase.

#### MEXICO.

Intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 21st ult. announces that the French had occupied Queretaro without opposition. Juarez had left San Luis di Potosi for Tlaxcala. His army was scattered, demoralised, and offering no resistance.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Mr. Pope Hennessy, M.P., had an audience of the Emperor at the Tuileries last week, and has since dined with Prince Napoleon.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.—Wednesday was the birthday of the King of the Belgians, who was seventy-three on that day. Great family rejoicings took place, as great joy is felt at the happy state of health of the King after his recent dangerous and most trying illness.

THE SUZ CANAL.—The *Moniteur* publishes a despatch from Suez, stating that the fresh-water canal is completed. The water was at three kilometres' distance from Suez. The inhabitants of the town had offered their congratulations to M. de Lesseps.

THE HEALTH OF GARIBALDI.—The *Precursore* of Palermo publishes the following letter from Garibaldi:—"Capri, 24th November, 1863.—My dear Basil,—I am in really excellent health, much beyond my hopes. With the exception of the scar, which is in a completely normal state, and a little stiffness, my right foot can quite compare with the left. I send you an affectionate greeting, and am yours always, G. GARIBALDI."

GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERY IN NEW ZEALAND.—Martin's Bay, on the west coast of the southern island, had long been known to receive a river flowing from the interior; but the river has now been explored by a Dr. Hector, found to be navigable for a great distance, to be directly connected with a considerable lake, and to bring him by water within forty-six hours' march of Lake Wakitepu. This will open up the interior of the southern island for at least 100 miles.

NEGRO EMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.—The Lieut.-Governor of Jamaica has informed the Legislature that her Majesty's Government has, with the consent of the United States' Government, sanctioned the proclamation of the ports of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia as ports of emigration, from which coloured labourers may be removed to the colonies of British Honduras and British Guiana by private individuals engaging their services, and that the same privilege would, no doubt, be granted to any other of the West India colonies desiring to obtain it.

THE PROGRESS OF CIVILISATION.—Jerusalem is coming under the Londonian system of pipes under the causeway, for gas, water, and sewage. Mr. J. I. Whitty, C.E., has been commissioned to estimate the cost of supplying Jerusalem with water. He argues that there can be little difficulty in supplying the wants of the present population, which amounts to 20,330, and he calculates that for constructing a main sewer, repairing cisterns, forming drains, and restoring Herod's aqueduct from Solomon's Pools, a greater sum than 8,479*l.* would not be required; while the most essential part of the works might be completed for 4,986*l.*

A few days ago a little urchin in Westminster saw a shilling lying on the footway. He had no sooner picked it up than it was claimed by a carman. "Your shilling hadn't got a hole in it." "Yes, it had," said the rogue of a carman. "Then this un ain't," coolly replied the boy, and walked off triumphantly.

#### MR. COBDEN AND THE "TIMES."

Some further correspondence has passed between Mr. Cobden and Mr. Delane. The latter having declared that, in his opinion, certain passages in the speeches of Messrs. Cobden and Bright will bear no other interpretation than that put upon them; Mr. Cobden calls upon his correspondent to give those "certain passages" upon which he bases that conclusion. He accepts the *Times* report of his speech as accurate, and proceeds to quote from that report himself all that he said relative to the agricultural population, and the land question in particular. Before doing so, Mr. Cobden refers to his own care in addressing public meetings to endeavour "to avoid the possibility of being misrepresented." When speaking at Rochdale the thought flashed across his mind that he was dealing with a question about which there was a superstition in England unknown elsewhere, and that the enemy would raise the cry of agrarianism against him, and hence his denunciation of agrarian outrage, which would be found in the following extract:—

It has been the fashion of late to talk of an extension of the franchise as something not to be tolerated, because it is assumed that the mass of the people are not fitted to take a part in government, and they point to America and France and other places, and draw comparisons between this country and other countries. Now, I hope I shall not be considered revolutionary, because at my age I don't want any revolutions. They won't serve me, I am sure, or anybody that belongs to me. England may compare very favourably with most other countries, if you draw the line in society tolerably high, and if you compare the condition of the rich and the upper classes of this country, or a considerable portion of the middle classes, with the same classes abroad. I don't think a rich man, barring the climate, which is not very good, could be very much happier anywhere else than in England; but when my opponents treat this question of the franchise as one that is likely to bring the masses of the people down from their present state to the level of other countries, I say that I have travelled in most civilised countries, and that the masses of the people of this country do not compare so favourably with the masses of other countries as I could wish. I find in other countries a greater number of people with property than there are in England. I don't know a Protestant country in the world where the masses of the people are so illiterate as in England. These are not bad tests of the condition of a people. It is no use your talking of your army and navy, your exports and your imports—it is no use telling me you have a small portion of your people exceedingly well off. I want to bring the test to a comparison of the majority of the people with a majority of the people in other countries. Now, I say with regard to some things in foreign countries we don't compare favourably. The condition of the English peasantry has no parallel on the face of the earth. (Hear.) You have no other peasantry but that of England which is entirely divorced from the land. There is no other country in the world where you will not find men holding the plough and turning up the furrow upon their own freehold. I don't want any agrarian outrages by which we should change all this: but this I find, and it is quite consistent with human nature, that wherever I go the condition of the people is generally pretty good, in comparison with the power they have to take care of themselves; and if you have a class entirely divorced from political power, while in another country they possess it, they will be treated there with more consideration, they will have greater advantages, they will be better educated, and have a better chance of having property than in a country where they are deprived of the advantage of political power. (Hear.)

Mr. Cobden finds the definition of "agrarianism" in the dictionary to be "an equal division of lands or property, or the principles of those who favour such a division."

Thus, in repudiating the agrarian system, I repudiated in pure and unquestionable English, according to Burke, the principles of those who favour an equal division of land. I repudiated the agrarian laws of Rome; and yet, in spite of this, you charge me and Mr. Bright with "proposing a division among the poor of the lands of the rich," and you associate us with Graecus in schemes of socialistic spoliation. I will leave Mr. Bright's case for the future, as you seem to prefer it, to his own good keeping, merely observing that his remarks upon the land question were more slight and incidental than even my own, and quite as incapable of being perverted to your sense.

Mr. Cobden therefore asks Mr. Delane whether he is prepared to adhere to the charge that he (Mr. C.) proposed at Rochdale, on the 24th ult., to divide "among the poor the lands of the rich"; and, if so, he calls on him to cite those "certain passages" from Mr. Cobden's speech which "will bear no other interpretation." He adds a very curious P.S.—

I purposely abstained from saying a word in the body of my letter in answer to other parts of your communication, because I wished to have a distinct and categorical answer from you on the single question at issue; but, as you seem to be curious upon the subject of my alienation from your pages, I will give you a trivial historical incident. When entering on the arrangement of the details of the treaty with France, in Paris, in the spring of 1860, I found that the *Times* arrived daily at the offices of the Commission in Rue de l'Université. While every faculty of my mind was employed on the task in hand I found my efforts thwarted and opposed day after day in the columns of your journal, where the treaty was incessantly denounced, ridiculed, and misrepresented. I knew of course that the statements made in the *Times* were groundless, I knew that the writers could not know them to be true, and I believed then, as I believe now, that you were actuated by the mercenary fear (foolish enough, I dare say) that the abolition of the paper-duty, which was contemplated as a part of the measures in connection with the treaty, would be injurious to the interests of your journal. To prevent this you appeared to be ready to destroy the treaty, defeat the budget of the year, sacrifice Mr. Gladstone, or worry me to death. I was tongue-tied and could not speak, owing to my official position; and it was only through the confidence which the Chambers of Com-



merely placed in my commercial knowledge that I was enabled to defeat your unpatriotic efforts.

I was naturally led to inquire how the *Times* reached the Commissioners' office, and was told that it came from home as a part of our equipment. It seemed strange enough that a Government professing to desire the success of the treaty should favour a journal which was doing its best to prevent it. Resolved that so long as I was at the head of the commission the *Times* should not enter the premises, I sent a communication to the proper quarter requesting that the *Daily News* should be substituted in its stead. This was done, and from that time the *Times* has never entered my house, except by accident.

Mr. Delane, in his reply, reiterates his belief that the very passage quoted by Mr. Cobden conveys the whole of the meaning attached to it in the *Times*:—

You seem to assume that I charged you with proposing that this division should be accomplished by violence. But your own words were there to prove to me that such was not your meaning, and to confute me instantly if I had attempted to attach that interpretation to it. There are, however, as no one knows better than yourself, other and more effective, because more enduring, means than violence for the division of the land of the rich among the poor. We see in France, for example, the effect you described to your Rochdale audience as so desirable in England—the *amorcelement* of the land—produced by the law of succession which prevails there.

A similar measure proposed by yourself, or by Mr. Bright, and carried in a Parliament elected principally by the peasantry whom you desire to enfranchise, because they would then "have a better chance of having property," would in two or three generations not only check the accumulation of land in few hands, but would break up all existing estates, great or small, and thus largely increase the number of proprietors. In another generation, probably, the peasant himself would "turn up the furrow on his own freehold," and be no longer "divorced from the land."

You suggest so obviously that it is by legislative measures—rendered possible by giving political power to the peasantry—you propose to "amend the unequal distribution of the land between the rich and the poor," that no one would think of charging you with endeavouring to effect this great change by violence.

But if you did not desire to produce by other means than violence a "division among the poor of the lands of the rich," allow me to ask, with all respect, what is the meaning and object of the passage to which you have referred me? As I write I find that Mr. Cobbett is in a similar difficulty.

Mr. Delane has also a P.S. in reference to the "trivial historical incident":—

It is of little interest to me or to the *Times* why or when you ceased to read it; but you must allow me to remind you that the *Times*, as the largest consumer of paper, has always recognised its own interest in the abolition of the paper-duty. Your negotiation at Paris affected not the *Times*, but the paper-makers, who complain, as I still think justly, that while you made such concessions to France as the undertaking to levy no export duties on coal, you omitted to stipulate that the French export duty upon the materials of paper should not be maintained. Surely it was not unbecoming a great commercial journal to remind the British negotiator of such neglect while there was yet time to amend it?

In a further letter, Mr. Cobden points out that Mr. Delane's new interpretation of the charge made against the Rochdale speakers does not correspond with that which ascribed to them a desire to distribute the land of the rich among the poor. "What you now affect to consider to be our object is the division of the land of the rich among the children of the rich." Mr. Cobden notes Mr. Delane's recantation, but repels the attempt to raise a fresh issue to cover his retreat under a fire of minor accusations. In a supplementary letter, Mr. Cobden gives the quotation from the *Times* (which appears in the *Daily News* article below), and says it is in direct contradiction to the statement made in Mr. Delane's last letter, and makes it "simply a mockery and an untruth." That quotation is characterised as "not only a libellous outrage upon two members of the House of Commons, but a dire insult to millions of honest and industrious Englishmen." Mr. Delane curtly and superciliously responds:—

The quotation you take from the *Daily News* is so far inaccurate that it does not convey the same meaning as the whole article from which it is taken does. I enclose the article and that which appeared on the following day. I add an extract from another, which has been published since; and, having now given you all the means necessary for obtaining that redress which purported to be the object of your first letter, I beg to retire from the personal part of this controversy.

(From the *Daily News* of Friday.)

The discussion between Mr. Cobden and the editor of the *Times* has come to an end. Whatever may be the inclinations of either party, it can be carried no further. Mr. Delane has once more been engaged in interpretation, but this time the words interpreted are his own, and his authority is unimpeachable.

Mr. Delane now states that the *Times*, in affirming that Messrs. Bright and Cobden had proposed to divide the lands of the rich among the poor, did not mean that the division was proposed to be effected by violence. This is important. But setting aside the mere instrumentality, the reader will be impatient to know for certain what kind of division of the land of the rich among the poor was imputed as a project to Mr. Bright. Let him, then, read Mr. Delane's words with all due attention. Addressing Mr. Cobden, he says:—

"There are, however, as no one knows better than yourself, other and more effective, because more enduring, means than violence for the division of the land of the rich among the poor. We see in France, for example, the effect you described to your Rochdale audience as so desirable in England—the *amorcelement* of the land—produced by the law of succession which prevails there."

Here, then, at length, we have the much-disputed meaning of the *Times*. The law of succession was in the writer's mind, and the horrible, revolutionary, agrarian design of Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden was simply to divide the lands of *rich fathers* among their *poor younger sons*—to do that which is done every day in our colonies!

Mr. Cobden may now very well afford to retire from the controversy. But what will the public say to Mr. Delane's interpretation when compared with the following passage from the first leading article of the *Times*, published Nov. 26? Having throughout the article coupled Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright in a joint responsibility for their language, the editor of the *Times* wrote:—

"This language, so often repeated, and so calculated to excite discontent among the poor and half-informed, has really only one intelligible meaning. 'Reduce the electoral franchise; for when you have done so you will obtain an Assembly which will *seize on the estates of the proprietors of land and divide them gratuitously among the poor.*' If this be not the true interpretation of these appeals to legislation, Messrs. Cobden and Bright should lose no time in disavowing it, and in pointing out some means of dividing land among the poor by law other than the confiscation of the property of its proprietors. If they do mean this, they have not done much towards forwarding the success of the cause of which they are the advocates. It may be right to reduce the franchise, but certainly not as a *step to spoliation.*"

Of course, after this Mr. Delane has nothing to retract, and moves off the scene with the dignity of injured innocence.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following are lists of candidates who passed the respective examinations indicated:—

##### SECOND B.A. EXAMINATION.

###### EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.—First Class.—Edmund Ledger (University Scholarship), private study; John Bumby Smales, Wesley, Sheffield.

CLASSICS.—First Class.—Augustus Samuel Wilkins, University; Charles Butler Davies, Trinity, Cambridge; William Scarnell Lean, University. Second Class.—William Field, Cheshunt; Charles Henry Phillips, private study.

CHEMISTRY.—First Class.—John Waller Melson (prize), Queen's, Birmingham.

ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY.—First Class.—Edward Henry Busk (prize), University; John Waller Melson, Queen's, Birmingham. Second Class.—George Lyon Turner, Cheshunt; George Solomon Joseph, University, and Philip Magnus, University (equal); William Henry Woolston, University. Third Class.—Robert Hunter, University, and Albert Kaye Rollit, King's (equal); Thomas De Courcy Atkins, King's.

LOGIC AND MORAL PHILOSOPHY.—First Class.—Joseph Estlin Carpenter, University and Manchester New, University scholarship; Llewelyn David Bevan, New; Robert Hunter, University; Albert Kaye Rollit, King's; Edward Henry Busk, University; Philip Magnus, University; George Lyon Turner, Cheshunt, and John Bumby Smales, Wesley, Sheffield (equal); Richard Acland Armstrong, Manchester New and University.

Second Class.—George Solomon Joseph, University; David Evans, University and Bala, William Field, Cheshunt, and Augustus Samuel Wilkins, University (equal); William Scarnell Lean, University, and Lewis Adonijah Mendes, Regent's-park (equal); Henry Godefroi, University, and John Stirling Ainsworth, Manchester New and University (equal).

Third Class.—James Fagan Rochford, private tuition, and Arundel Tagg, University (equal); Thomas De Courcy Atkins, King's, and Charles Bilton, King's (equal); Henry Snook Gardner, private study; William Carey Morgan, private study.

##### SECOND B.S.C. EXAMINATION.

###### PASS EXAMINATION.

ENTIRE.—First Division.—Edward Hesketh Birkenhead, Royal School of Mines; Edward Maxwell Dixon, private study; Clement Le Neve Foster, Royal School of Mines; George Walter Knox, University College; Edmund James Mills, Royal College of Chemistry. Second Division.—Edward Louis Barret, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; John Broughton, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Alexander Bruce (first M.B.), University College; Walter Flight, Queenwood College; Quintin Pringle, private study.

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, GEOLOGY, AND PALEONTOLOGY ONLY.—First Division.—Frederick George Finch, B.A., Royal School of Mines.

###### EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

CHEMISTRY.—First Class.—George Walter Knox (University scholarship), University College; Walter Flight, Queenwood College.

BIOLOGY.—Second Class.—Alexander Bruce, University College; Clement Le Neve Foster, Royal School of Mines. Third Class.—George Walter Knox, University College.

GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY.—First Class.—Frederick George Finch and Clement Le Neve Foster (University scholarship), Royal School of Mines (equal). Second Class.—George Walter Knox, University College.

##### SECOND M.B. EXAMINATION.

MIDWIFERY.—First Class.—Thomas Stevenson, Guy's Hospital, scholarship and gold medal; John Wale Hicks, St. Thomas's Hospital, gold medal; Philip Henry Pye-Smith, Guy's Hospital; James Beddard, Guy's Hospital. Second Class.—Julius St. Thomas Clarke, Guy's Hospital; Gwynne Henry Harries, King's College; John Talfourd Jones, University College; Fredk. Thomas Roberts, University College. Third Class.—James Gwyther, Manchester Royal Infirmary; Walter Rivington, London Hospital.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.—First Class.—Thomas Stevenson, Guy's Hospital, scholarship and gold medal; John Talfourd Jones, University College, gold medal; Julius St. Thomas Clarke, Guy's Hospital, Walter Rivington, London Hospital, and Frederick Thomas Roberts, University College, equal. Second Class.—James Beddard, Guy's Hospital, and Philip Henry Pye-Smith, Guy's Hospital, equal; James Gwyther, Manchester Royal Infirmary. Third Class.—Arthur Wellesley Edis,

Westminster Hospital, and John Wale Hicks, St. Thomas's Hospital, equal; William Henry Axford, King's College.

###### PASS EXAMINATION.

FIRST DIVISION.—William Henry Axford, King's College; Henry Charlton Bastian, M.A., University College; James Beddard and Julius St. Thomas Clarke, Guy's Hospital; Arthur Wellesley Edis, Westminster Hospital; James Gwyther, B.A., Manchester Royal Infirmary; Gwynne Henry Harries, King's College; John Wale Hicks, B.A. and B.Sc., St. Thomas's Hospital; John Talfourd Jones, University College; Henry Thomas Lanchester, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Frederick John Money, St. Thomas's Hospital; Philip Henry Pye-Smith, B.A., Guy's Hospital; Walter Rivington, B.A., London Hospital; Frederick Thomas Roberts, B.Sc., and William John Smith, University College; George Thomas Mitchell Southam, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Thomas Stevenson, Guy's Hospital; John Henry Wood, King's College.

SECOND DIVISION.—John Cook and Athendore de Negri, University College; Henry Stanley Gale, King's College; James Jackson, London Hospital; John Thomas Mercer, Guy's Hospital; Richard Patrick Burke Taaffe, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

###### EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

SURGERY.—First Class.—James Beddard (scholarship and gold medal), Philip Henry Pye-Smith (gold medal), and Thomas Stevenson, Guy's Hospital; Walter Rivington, London Hospital. Second-class.—Julius St. Thomas Clarke, Guy's Hospital; Arthur Wellesley Edis, Westminster Hospital.

MEDICINE.—First Class.—John Talfourd Jones (scholarship and gold medal), University College; Philip Henry Pye-Smith (gold medal), Thomas Stevenson, and James Beddard, Guy's Hospital. Second Class.—Frederick Thomas Roberts, University College; Henry Thomas Lanchester, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; John Wale Hicks, St. Thomas's Hospital. Third Class.—Julius St. Thomas Clarke, Guy's Hospital; James Gwyther, Manchester Royal Infirmary; Arthur Wellesley Edis, Westminster Hospital.

###### M.D. EXAMINATION.

Richard Whitfield Hewlett, King's College; Charles Hayes Marriot, University College; Frederick John Money, St. Thomas's Hospital; Edward Parson, King's College; Sydney Ringer, University College; Morris Tonge, King's College; Edward Woakes, St. Thomas's Hospital.

#### Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty left Windsor for Osborne on Friday, having been detained a day in consequence of the dangerous state of the sea. She was accompanied by several members of the Royal family.

About two o'clock on Thursday morning a fire was discovered at the top of the Prince of Wales's Tower, in Windsor Castle, which, of course, created great alarm. It appeared that the fire was on the outside of the roof, and is supposed to have been caused by the negligence of some workmen who were lately making repairs there. The fire was soon got under, and fortunately her Majesty was not disturbed.

Prince Alfred and Prince William of Hesse have gone to Osborne for Christmas.

The Queen and Royal family attended Divine service at Osborne House on Sunday. The Rev. G. Prothero officiated.

The Prince and Princess of Wales attended Divine service in the Chapel Royal, St. George, Windsor, on Sunday afternoon.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston left town on Saturday for Broadlands, Hants.

It is rumoured that Cardinal Wiseman intends to resign, in consequence of ill health.

The *Daily News* says that among political men an opinion is becoming prevalent that we are within six months of a general election.

It is reported that his Grace the Duke of Newcastle has resigned, or is about to resign, on account of ill health.

Since the Cabinet Council held in the middle of last week a number of the Ministers have taken their departure from town, and are not expected to return to London until after the Christmas recess.

The Admiralty, it is said, sent an officer to America some time ago to inspect and report upon the guns in use there.

**GREAT FIRE IN THE CITY.**—On Saturday morning a fire broke out in a City warehouse, and soon extended to a number of houses in Milk-street and Wood-street, occupied chiefly by firms in various branches of the "dry goods" trade. The damage done is said to be greater than that by any fire since the great outbreak at London Bridge. The value of the property destroyed is roughly estimated at 100,000*l.* The use of iron for safety against fire was most conclusively proved by a very remarkable circumstance. The large and handsome warehouses of Messrs. J. and R. Morley, situate at the corner of Gresham and Wood streets, overlooked by a large window on the ground floor at the back the little court in which the fire originated, and to which it was at first confined. This large window was protected on the outside by a folding iron shutter, and that more against robbery than fire. On this occasion for some time the flames played fiercely but harmlessly about the outside of the window, so guarded by the iron shutter. Had they once entered Messrs. Morley's premises at that point, the stock stored inside, and estimated at from 250,000*l.* to 300,000*l.* would inevitably have been destroyed, if, indeed, the devastation would have ended in that one vast pile of buildings. As it is, their loss, covered by insurance, is estimated at from 4,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* Of the stocks of Mr. Bunting, Messrs. Henry, and Mr. Gibson, the other sufferers, not a vestige remains.



## Literature.

## BAYARD TAYLOR'S AMERICAN NOVEL.\*

It is not for its story chiefly that this novel will be read—as read it will be. Everything about America has become invested with so deep and even tragic an interest, that any truthful account of modes of life prevalent there will be welcomed here. The only fault we are disposed to find with the present work is, that it presents so limited a portion of the life it professes to depict. The phases of society in the States must be of all varieties, from Fifth-avenue and the Upper Ten to the very skirts of savagedom. It must present the fine social and literary culture of which such men as Nathaniel Hawthorne and H. W. Longfellow are the most perfect expression, as well as the raw ignorance and grotesque ferment of opinion and theory, which Mr. Taylor exhibits to us here in the circles of "Ptolemy." Mr. Taylor, however, while calling his book "a story of American life," has entirely confined himself to the latter, and made no attempt to enable us better to understand that still very little known world of thought, of principles, and of action in the Northern States, which answers to the sphere of educated and refined society in England. Maxwell Woodbury, the hero of the story, is no exception to this statement; for his long residence in Calcutta, and intimacy with its English residents, had divested him completely of those social peculiarities which might have marked him as an American; and when he comes to settle down in manhood where he spent his youth, he is felt to be something unusual and *sui generis*,—just as a foreigner, however accomplished, is sure to be in the country he selects for his abode.

The story opens freshly and amusingly with the "Great Sewing Union" at Ptolemy. The said Union has been formed by a coalescence of no less than three smaller societies, belonging to different congregations and sects in Ptolemy—one having for its object "to raise a fund to assist in supporting a mission in 'Jutnapore'; a second, composed of ladies belonging to 'the Cimmerian Church' (whatever that may be), working for a parsonage-repair bazaar; the third, the sewing circle for the Anti-Slavery Fair, and whose principal object appears to have been to increase the circulation of their representative periodical, the *Slavery Annihilator*. To these grand gatherings the other sex are admitted after tea; and it is here that Maxwell Woodbury and Hannah Thurston make their *début*—the *déroulement* being of course sufficiently evident (according to all known novelistic laws) from the moment that the pretty Quakeress is introduced to us. However, we do not quarrel with this; holding, as we do, that to be a poor story, which loses any considerable portion of its interest by a knowledge of the way it is to end. The author has used little variety of incident; his main object, as a novelist, being the progress of these two characters towards a perfect union of feeling with each other. He has, in fact, occupied himself with obstacles to loving, rather than what novelists oftener deal with—obstacles to getting married. And this he has managed with a good deal of skill. He has given us at starting, on the one side, a deep, true, womanly nature, but fenced round with forbidding theories of "Woman's Rights," and other crochets; a favourite speaker on the platforms of the societies to which her sympathies were given, and judging everyone else by the standard of her own limited social knowledge—and withal thirty years old. On the other, a man knowing the world well, capable of appreciating real worth, and yet, from a sensitive temperament and social habits, most certain to be repelled by anything angular, unfeminine, or *blue*. We see how severe the struggle is for both; how trebly so for her whose ardent, truthful nature had invested her theories with the combined light of imagination and principle—and yet we never for one moment doubt that "Love will still be lord of all." Perhaps it will be said, we have had all this before, and that embodied in the most delightful poem of fancy which our literature boasts. Yet the task remained unaccomplished of working out on the ordinary level of human life a problem which in the "Princess" is solved rather ideally than practically. Mr. Taylor's diction heightens and warms in a perfectly natural way, as he approaches the climax of his story; and the third volume bears witness to powers of feeling and expression which have evidently been controlled and husbanded in the earlier parts of the story, in obedience to the laws of artistic composition. But we must not overlook the subordinate scenes and characters. Most of the latter are identified with one or other of the many schemes and

'isms of which Ptolemy exhibits such a crop. There is Seth Wattles, the reforming tailor, always ready with his frothy speechifying at all meetings on behalf of "Woman's Rights," the Abolition of Slavery, or a preventive liquor-law, and whose effrontery gets so nicely snubbed when he ventures to confound fraternity in assertion of an abstract right with a more personal sentiment; the several pastors of the congregations at Ptolemy, who, however, cut rather a poor figure by the side of either their own wives or the philanthropic adventurers; honest, but weak-minded farmer Merryfield, sponged upon by all the enlightened Reformers who, making a stay at Ptolemy, find the farmhouse a comfortable and economical resort; the charlatan Dyce, "medium" and recruiter for the "community;" together with sundry other agitators and stump-orators, whose restless activity both expresses and tends to perpetuate a state of moral and religious excitement with which English society rarely presents anything to correspond.

It strikes one that it must be rather an uncomfortable thing to be in the midst of a society where everyone has some pet social hobby to be ridden, or some testimony to be borne, with little or no regard for the feelings or convictions of others. Yet, as the author of "Hannah Thurston" remarks, there is something hopeful, as well as deserving of respect, in all this. At least it shows that the moral nature has not been buried beneath worldliness or self-indulgence. It is a sort of effervescence which gives prospect of a settling down to something like real moral strength. Nothing is hopeless except apathy and indifference: rather than that, let us rejoice to see that undeveloped and perhaps unreasonable earnestness which issues in Vegetarian restrictions and Maine liquor laws.

Only once or twice the author of "Hannah Thurston" makes use of phraseology which English readers will feel to be coarse. Thus, for example, in a description of the Rev. Mr. Waldo, pastor of the church of the Cimmerians, before referred to, we are told that besides having "a short nose, set out from his face at a sharper angle than is usual with noses," he possessed a mouth "in which the Lord had placed a set of teeth belonging to a man of twice the size." This is, in our judgment, profane. Of Seth we are told, that "his clay seemed to have been modelled by a bungling apprentice, and imperfectly baked afterwards." Nothing is easier than to write in this style, as Mr. Taylor must be well aware; but it should be left to those to do so who are incapable of producing an effect by legitimate means. By the way, we notice here and there an intruder into our language in the shape of a verb to exploit, for to show off—make use of. Having gibbeted him, let us hope he will be in no danger of becoming respectable here. It may be worth while, too, to remind Mr. Taylor that it is not any more amusing to find a character in a novel interlarding all his speeches with "as it were," than it is in actual life. It was Charles Dickens, we believe, who set the example of labelling characters with catch-words; and even in his hands the trick becomes wearisome, though his catch-words are generally droller than Merryfield's "as it were."

This is not the first time we have had the pleasant duty of introducing a book of Mr. Bayard Taylor's to our readers; his earliest work as well as his recent "Poet's Journal" having been noticed by us. We shall be glad to receive fresh pictures of "American life" from one who can describe it with so much candour and good sense.

## THE LAUREATE AND CLASSICAL METRES.\*

Whatever our honoured Laureate writes, the public will read eagerly. Hence if the Classical metres, even in his hands, fail to become popular, it will not be through their failing to attract attention. We must confess, however, to a feeling of something like regret on first hearing that one who can wield the various native and nationalised metres of the British Parnassus with such grace and mastery, should have undertaken a task of the impossibility of which we felt deeply convinced. Impossibility, we mean, in the deeper and broader sense of the word; as far as any really fruitful results to our literature might be concerned: for of course we have had before now examples of clever and felicitous stanzas in imitation of Horace and Catullus, produced by the combination of a good deal of persevering ingenuity with an accurate acquaintance with the ancient rhythm. The difficulties to be contended with are so generally understood, as arising out of the totally distinct fundamental principles of English and of Greek or Latin versification, that we need not say much on this head.

Quantity does no doubt often coincide with accent; but almost as often it does not. There are many lines in Horace, which pronounced according to the known rules of accentuation—not quantity—read rhythmically enough to an English ear. Thus, for example, it requires no knowledge even of longs and shorts to enable us to appreciate the rhythm of the following opening line of one of the Venesian's grandest odes:

Quæcûra Pâtrum quæcûve Quiritium,

or of this,

Mércuri facûnde nepôs Atlântis:

but, on the other hand, there are an almost equal number of lines (to a Roman ear without doubt equally satisfying and melodious), which when read by accent, have for us positively *no rhythm at all*:—or, if any, one quite different from that which we know to have been designed. As a well-known example may be quoted the opening line of the noble ode—

Justum ac tenacem propositi virum:

and scholars are well aware that the swinging jingle supposed to correspond to the ancient Sapphic, and popularised by Canning in his amusing

"Needy knife-grinder, | whither are you going?"

is about as much like the subtle metre invented by Phaon's lover as "Jim Crow" is like "God save the Queen." We can, however, have no objection to our Laureate's amusing himself with the tempting and brilliant feat of writing English Hexameters, Alcaics or Hendecasyllabics, which shall approach as near as the conditions of the experiment will allow to those antique mosaics so exquisite both in their ease and their elaboration: only let him know, that ten lines of his, flowing forth in obedience to that inner harmony of theme and music which it is suicide for the poet to disobey, will be more precious to us than all of them put together—be they even more successful than, and ever so many times as numerous as, those he has given us here by way of specimen. These are threefold: one piece consisting of three couplets of Hexameters and Pentameters; the second of four Alcaic stanzas; the third of about a score of Hendecasyllabics, a kind of metre which from its "dainty" tripping movement, was a favourite with Roman gentlemen who found their diversion in letters; and by them appropriated chiefly to a kind of subject which, we may congratulate ourselves, is nearly as obsolete as the metre itself. The temper in which the Laureate approaches his task—"half coquette-like," to use his own exquisitely chosen simile—half-pert and defiant—is in keeping with the half-sportive, half-serious character of his experiment. What is the would-be critic to say when he is accosted in tones so little flattering to his dignity as these (we take the liberty of adding the accents for the benefit of those who may be rusty in their Prosody):—

"O, you chûras of îdolûnt revîewers,  
Irrespûnsible, îdolûnt revîewers!"

Little accustomed as we are to be slapped in the face in this style, we must condone the affront, we suppose, on the ground that the spirit of the old wanton Muse had got into him, and was not to be exorcised. We could wish the pertness of the models whom Tennyson has here followed had been as harmless as his own. Amusing is this tiny poem:

"All composed in a metre of Catullus."

it does not rouse in our minds any vehement longings for more. Very much finer, though not perhaps displaying greater ingenuity than is unquestionably displayed in the Hendecasyllabics, is the really noble Alcaic on "Milton." The Alcaic is well known to scholars as the richest and grandest of all the ancient lyric metres. Horace always chooses it for his loftiest and most impressive strains; and the Laureate has shown his accurate comprehension of its genius by laying aside his banter here, and writing in good earnest. These are, we believe, the finest Alcaics ever written in the English language. As we glance our eye over them again, and the echoes they recall roll and swell, we almost repent of what we have said above. Very fine and true to the Horatian model is the commencement:

"O, mighty-mouthed inventor of harmonies."

And exquisitely pure and sweet the transition at the third stanza:—

"Me rather all that bowery loneliness,  
The brooks of Eden mazy murmuring,  
And bloom profuse and cedar arches  
Charm, as a wanderer out in ocean."

Yet, sweet as this is, it is the sweetness of echoes, not of original strains; and we shall, perhaps, value Tennyson's Alcaics rather for the light they reflect upon the ancient metre, and the help they will furnish to the student to appreciate a rhythm which from its subtlety and elaborateness presents to him especial difficulty, than for what they are in themselves. His Elegiacs do not

\* *Hannah Thurston: A Story of American Life.* By BAYARD TAYLOR. Three Volumes. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

\* *Attempts at Classic Metres in Quantity.* By ALFRED TENNYSON. "Cornhill Magazine" for December, 1863.



strike us as equalling Coleridge's most felicitous couplet:—

"In the Hexameter rises the fountain's silvery column;  
In the Pentameter aye falling in melody back."

If there is nothing further to be shown in favour of English Hexameters and Pentameters than is here given us, our sentence will have been anticipated:—

"Hexameters no worse than daring Germany gave us;  
Barbarous experiment, barbarous hexameters!"

But whatever may be thought of the Laureate's "experiments" in the Classic metres, there can be but one feeling, and that of profound admiration, for the most exquisite specimen of Homeric translation—not in "Classic" metre, but in good English blank verse—which he has thrown in with them. Here is the authentic poet of Ulysses, of Tithonus, and of the Morte d'Arthur. It would be unfair to quote, when a shilling will place the whole of these poems in the hands of those who choose to possess them. We content ourselves with saying that this strikes us as about the most perfect specimen of translation it has ever been our good fortune to meet with.

#### GIFT BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

(Continued.)

*Lottie Lonsdale.* By E. J. WORBOISE. (Virtue Brothers.) This is a pleasing tale, written for the purpose of setting forth the beauty and power of a life of self-consecration. After the types of religious character and work set forth by a certain class of authors who write as though the embroidering of altar-cloths was one of the most admirable manifestations of piety, it is refreshing to find a book which renders such honour to earnest labours among the poor and neglected. The book, indeed, is a series of illustrations of the text, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father" is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their "affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world"; and may cordially be recommended as fitted to give young people a deeper view of their responsibilities. It is true that some of the characters are rather too good to be perfectly natural; but on the whole the tale is commendable for the absence of cant, for its thoroughly practical spirit, for its earnest advocacy of the cause of the poor and sorrowing, and, above all, for the generous temper with which it deals with the victims of temptation. Nor are we in these days, when so many heroines of religious stories are made to end their days in the ranks of some pious sisterhood, at all disposed to complain of the authoress because she provides for her principal female characters such comfortable matrimonial settlements. But while thus heartily praising *Lottie Lonsdale* as a superior book of its class, still we are bound to say that Miss Worboise should devote a little more care to the execution of her work if she would do justice to her own powers. The tale is too prolix, and a little time employed in condensation might at once have improved its style and greatly enhanced its value. She appears also to have fallen into a practice which she would do well to unlearn, of altering the words of favourite hymns, and certainly without at all improving them. Slight faults such as these may be easily corrected, and we point them out because, believing the authoress to be capable of doing good service to our young people, we regret that her usefulness should be at all diminished by defects that could be so soon cured.—*Steps in the Dark.* By H. M. (W. Oliphant and Co.) This has rather more of the sensation element than is common in stories of the kind. What with an intriguing French Abbé and two desperate gamblers, a secret perversion to Popery, a private marriage, and a supposed suicide, we have elements of sufficient excitement and mystery to give considerable interest to the tale. Its purpose seems to be to exhibit the beauty of a life of simple godliness. The principal characters of the tale are two orphan sisters, the difference of whose temperaments soon discovers itself and produces the natural results in the future history of their lives. Owing to the selfish worldliness of the woman whom their uncle and guardian had married, and who was afraid of their influence over her husband, they are sent to a school in France, where the younger and, more volatile is not only seduced into the Romish Church but also into a marriage with a young French gambler who soon makes away with her fortune and reduces her to the extreme of misery. On her sad fortunes and their result the story chiefly turns. There is one point for which it deserves especial commendation—the absence of bigotry in the references to the Romish Church, a quality the more remarkable when found in a Scotch book. The pictures of the priests are certainly not inviting, but the idea of such a character as that of Madeleine Villeneuve does credit to the author's heart. Such characters are, we fear, but rarely found among the votaries of Popery; but we admire the wise charity that leads the writer to recognise the fact that there may often be found beautiful flowers of piety flourishing on soil the most unpromising, and amid influences that we should have deemed the most unfriendly.—*Tales of Many Lands.* By Miss TYTLER (Virtue Brothers), will be read with delight by our youthful friends. Miss Tytler writes with great spirit, and seems to understand the class for whom she caters. Some of the tales are singularly pathetic and touching, and none of them can be read without inspiring that generous manly temper

which we desire to cherish in the hearts of the young. "The Two Cousins" is perhaps the most affecting story of the whole. The character of Frank Beauchamp is well conceived, and the effect produced on it by the influence of his aunt and cousin is portrayed with great vividness and effect. "The Young Chief" is also a tale of considerable power and of the most healthful influence. We greatly admire the closing scene in the life of Duncan Maclean, not only for its pathos, but for the beautiful view of Christian principle which it presents.—*Fireside Chats with the Youngsters.* By OLD MERRY. (Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.) An old man with a boy's heart is always a welcome companion to both men and boys. Such a character is either well assumed or actually belongs to "Old Merry,"—whom our boys will be right glad to meet again at the fireside; and will laugh with heartiness, then think in quietness, over the pleasant, racy, wise talk of this genial friend. Jerry Sneak and Mr. Braggadocio, jun., will be often named where once they have been exposed; and whenever fairies or giants, cowards or shams, come up in boy-talk, the kindly feelings, the love of manly truthfulness, and the outspoken words of Old Merry will be profitably remembered. The bits of anecdote of his Welsh tour are well told and usefully applied. He knows boys well, and how to speak to their inner nature; and his book is to be gratefully and cordially commended.—*Our Birthdays, and How to Improve them.* By EMMA DAVENPORT, author of "Live Toys." (Griffith and Farran.) A book for girls of about ten years old,—full of good sense and pleasantly-told incidents. But we are not sure that the proposal to "improve" birthdays in Mrs. Scott's fashion is a good one;—Old Merry, of whom we have just been writing, would, we fear, find in the ready acquiescence of the Annes something of the sham he hates. To dictate acts of self-denial to children, rather than to inspire them, may excite self-consciousness and love of approbation, rather than a simple sacrificing spirit of goodness. The latter part of the book is true to girl-life, and thoughtful in its well-clothed religious teachings.—*Stories from Jewish History,* from the Babylonian Captivity to the Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus. By A. L. O. E. (T. Nelson and Sons.) This little volume, by a writer who has earned the thanks of thousands of young people by her clever, interesting, and pious-hearted books, will be very acceptable as a view of that part of Jewish history which is usually least known to the young. It is interesting enough for private perusal by children, and condensed enough to be a good class-book in schools. The relations of the history are marked by brief tables of principal contemporaneous events. The lessons of courage, faith, and devotion taught by the history are not preached separately, but made to appear in its characters and movements.—Having named with pleasure this writer, known to us only by the initials she employs, we here introduce *The Silver Casket, or the World and its Wiles.* By A. L. O. E. (T. Nelson and Sons.) This is another of the books in which the author so peculiarly excels—a mixture of poetical allegory with the facts and experiences of youthful life, the one supplying a spiritual interpretation to the other, yet clothed in imaginative forms instead of directly didactic. We never knew children grow tired of "The Young Pilgrim," "The Giant Killer," &c.; and we are sure that "The Silver Casket" will become as great a favourite; and that Aunt Eva, Diana and Bertie, the Palace of Deceits, and the Forest of Temptations, will become household words in families where A. L. O. E. has once been received as the children's guest.—*Annals of Industry and Genius.* By C. S. BRIGHTWELL. (T. Nelson and Sons.) "Life—histories of those who have distinguished themselves among their fellows, and have attained the objects to which they aspired." The persons selected are principally those who have attained eminence by industry and self-denial,—a few are those of great natural genius. Some neglected names are to be found here,—John Ludwig; the self-taught Saxon peasant,—Philip Matthew Hahn,—Robert Goeh,—Heyne,—John Bacon, the sculptor,—Louis Holberg, and several others; while Tycho Brahe and Belzoni, Franklin and Hutton, Sir William Jones, and Tom Britten, "the musical small-coal man," add celebrities to the list and enlarge its scope. The writer's care is manifest, her style pleasing, and her aim to quicken intellectual power and zeal in the young is well sustained by the vivacity and spirit of her interesting sketches. There are illustrations by Mr. M'Eery; and the book is elegant in typography and novel in binding.—*The Story without an End:* from the German of Carové; by SARAH AUSTIN. (Virtue Brothers, and Co.) This little book is most delicately perfect as a present for a child;—its story is richly poetical, strangely fascinating to children, and full of spiritual meanings,—and its numerous illustrations by Mr. Harvey are amongst the most graceful and expressive things he has done. This "new and improved edition" ought to need frequent reproduction; and Mrs. Austin to have the thanks of children everywhere for her exquisite rendering of this beautiful little work.—*Tales of Heroes:* taken from English History. By the Author of "The Juvenile Sunday Library." (T. Nelson and Sons.) The subjects seem to have been painstakingly studied: but the writer's manner is diffuse and not always very intelligent. We cannot promise that much dependence may be placed on the author's grasp of a historical subject, or comprehension of a character. In the sketch of Joan of Arc, there are

amusing vacillations and contradictions in the language applied to her: such as the following,—"this simple peasant girl . . . fancied that the desire with which her soul was filled had been kindled by inspiration,"—"our bold enthusiast, hourly confirmed in the belief that she was protected by the hand of heaven,"—"which soon changes to that which will undoubtedly shock the reader as much as it has ever done the writer," and it becomes "a painful duty to acknowledge some faults into which she allowed herself to fall"; and she is then made a peg on which to hang morals on "the rapid strides by which sin finds entrance into the human heart." And thus the historic sentence wavers between "our heroine," "the unfortunate and much-lamented maid," and "a designing impostor whom the rational part of the British nation looked upon with abhorrence": and she is said to have been "mild and quiescent from the happy belief that a heavenly deliverer would be sent to her,"—and to furnish an example, in that very belief, as a "fanciful persuasion," of what may "spring from the indulgence of a sinful wish,"—and to have been in a state of "lunacy, which her judges could not perceive or would not admit"! The story of King Alfred is done best. The illustrations are numerous.—*Missionary Scenes.* (Elliot Stock.) A packet of cards on which are tinted views of mission stations, portraits, and other illustrations of the labours of the Baptist Missionary Society,—with accompanying verses. Very pretty, interesting, and instructive, as a present or reward (either the packet or a single card) in Sunday-schools.—*Evenings at Home:* by Dr. AIKIN and Mrs. BARBAULD. (Longman and Co.) This is a new volume of the "Shilling Entertaining Library," edited by Mr. Laurie. Such an abridgement may revive the waning fame of "Evenings at Home,"—its illustrations are capital,—and it deserves, with the other volumes of the series, to be remembered amongst the gift-books that are best fitted to the young.—*More Fun for our Little Friends.* By the Author of "Great Fun." Illustrated with Twenty-two large pictures. By E. H. WEHNERT. (S. Low, Son, and Co.) Mrs. "Harriet Myrtle" is most welcome to the nursery, and to the younger portion of the school-room circle. Hers is one of the very best children's books of the season. Her inventions have a reality about them, and a minuteness of detail, and a perpetual variety of liveliness, that children find infinitely delightful. No child who has this book will ever forget "Willie and his little horse," "The Doll's Ball," or "Tommy's Troubles," or "The Two Cats,"—we quite fancy that had we read them when we were young, they would still have been part of the mental store that imagination and feeling carried forth from the nursery and have jealously guarded till this day. Mr. Wehnert's pictures are of very high merit,—several of them admirable as works of art,—mingling humour with fact and with poetic suggestion.

#### BRIEF NOTES—BOOKS FOR THE SEASON

*The Interrupted Wedding: A Hungarian Tale.* By the Author of "Mary Powell," &c. (Griffith and Farran.) This is one of the author's best books. It breaks new ground, is carefully studied, and is written with great spirit. The scenes and characters of peasant life in Hungary, with which it opens, are full of life, and extremely interesting. The more aristocratic Magyars "at home" have been sketched from works of admitted authority. We are introduced also, in several effective scenes, to the Hungarian gipsies,—in whom all the mystery and romance of that wild and dangerous people seem to be concentrated. A specimen of a Jew of Hungary, and of a young Seressan girl, also deserve mention for individuality and novelty. The story of Paul's wedding—in one of the Calvinist Magyar villages—interrupted by a tipsy haiduck, or constable, and ending in riot and bloodshed which drove the bridegroom then and there from Susi, his fascinating bride, to be a wanderer in danger and fear, soon passes over into the story of the uprising of Hungary in 1848, and the events of the war of independence that terminated so unfortunately, if not hopelessly. Certainly there is a want of unity in the work, which not even the thread of Paul's personal story compensates for; and one feels that "the interrupted wedding" is but a prelude to the historical events which the author has so sympathetically studied as to enable her to reproduce all the chief persons and movements, in a forcible and brilliant dramatic narrative. It is in pictures of life and manners, in the episodes of action, and in the general truth of the historical portraiture—not in its plot and coherence as a tale—that the merits of the book consist: and they are so high, that we may commend it without reserve, and with assurance of its full acceptableness to readers of pure taste and generous feeling.—*Familiar, Proverbial, and Select Sayings from Shakspeare.* By JOHN B. MARSH (Simpkin and Co.; Manchester: Heywood). The compiler of this elegant little volume has made a very welcome addition to our Shakspeariana. "Beauties of Shakspeare" we have already; but a collection of those passages which have become truly and universally "household words," has never been attempted after such a manner as that in which he has succeeded so well. Of course it is a matter of personal opinion what are, in the proper sense, "sayings," and not mere descriptions, or points of dramatic development, or peculiarities of individual portraiture. Some persons may think the author too exclusive, some too inclusive.



For ourselves, we are quite satisfied with the work, according to its author's own conception of what such a work should be; unless in about half-a-dozen instances we said "too fragmentary"—which is nothing really to object. "Arranged (says the author) in the order in which they occur in the various plays, it will be found that the spirit of each play is contained in the selected sayings,"—that is to say, familiar Shakspearians will have all the spirit of the play come breathing over them as they read these sayings; but it stands to reason that, unless the characters and the action be nothing in themselves, no one unfamiliar with any play could anticipate it from such selected sayings. Mr. Marsh evidently knows Shakspeare well, and appreciates the real force of words that may be isolated without injury; and, having followed him through several plays, we can testify, of them at least, that he has missed no line or phrase which we think should have been here. A good and full index affords the means of finding any saying by any one of its principal words.

## ALMANACS, &amp;c.

*The Evangelical Almanac* (Jackson, Walford, and Co.), has, besides the usual information, passages of Scripture for each day, suggestive thoughts for spare moments, poetry, useful notes, &c., and is in all these respects highly excellent. We cannot praise the photographs for anything more than fairly copying five heads out of well-known engravings. We shall never reconcile ourselves to advertisements at the top and bottom of each page of the calendar.—*The Garden Oracle and Floricultural Year Book*, by SHIRLEY HIBBERD (Groombridge and Sons), besides the ordinary matter of an almanac, has full calendar of garden work, cultural notes, new shrubs, flowers, and fruits of the past year, selections of fruits, flowers, and vegetables, with instructions for growing, and other similar matter. The great feature of the almanac is both novel and pleasing, viz., an arrangement of plants and flowers for every day in the year, in the natural order of their growth and blooming, so as thereby to mark the progress of the seasons, instead of by the common anniversaries and ecclesiastical festivals. Whoever has a garden, however small, should certainly obtain Mr. Hibberd's "Oracle."—*The Weather Almanac and Meteorological and Rural Handbook for the British Isles*. By ORLANDO WHISTLECRRAFT. (J. M. Burton and Co.) This is a very useful almanac for the country—a "rural handbook" for which there is undoubtedly a large public. The weather predictions are alone objectionable. They are its disgrace. It may indeed be said that it is very safe to predict "unsettled weather, with occasional rain or snow, and probably gales at times," for the month of January; or "rather variable, and some windy weather," then "more springlike at times, and very changeable," for the month of April. But these are only the results of common observation of the character of average Januaries and Aprils; and it is an unworthy thing to trade in mere generalisms, which certainly become specific falsehoods in the proportion of the dates attached to them, and then to call these "predictions"! and to rest the individual claims of an almanac on them. In the present state of meteorology, there is no such thing as weather prediction, beyond the anticipation of the next few days, and they who say there is are mountebanks, who fool the public.

**CORRECTION.**—In noticing last week "Rivers of Water in a Dry Place" (Tract Society), we said it had appeared in *Sunday at Home*. We had a vague remembrance of an African mission story in that periodical which had pleased us; but casually turning back to its pages, we discover that we were mistaken in supposing this excellent and interesting book to have been already published there.

## LITERATURE AND ART.

Messrs. Macmillan and Co. are about to publish a "History of England for the Use of Schools and Colleges," by Professor Goldwin Smith; and the same publishers have announced "A Boy's History of England," by Professor Kingsley, to be published simultaneously in England and America.

Two volumes of Napoleon III.'s "Life of Cæsar" are ready, but they are, according to the *Mémorial Diplomatique*, not to appear as yet, since his Majesty is going to revise them, for the sixth or seventh time, from documents furnished by a learned captain of the Génie corps.

A volume of miscellaneous remains from the Commonplace Book of Archbishop Whately is preparing for publication, as well as a Memoir of his Life, which will consist mainly of letters and other memoranda of his own.

The Turner prize for landscape has been granted, after a six years' interval, to Mr. Frank Walton.

Mr. John Everett Millais and Mr. Edward William Cooke have been elected Royal Academicians.

**SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES.**—There was a large attendance at Surrey Chapel on Monday evening, to hear a lecture from the Rev. E. White, on "A Walk through Westminster Abbey." The lecture was replete with information, conveyed in the most pleasing and attractive manner, loud and long-continued plaudits evincing the interest taken in the subject by those present; and at the close the Rev. Newman Hall tendered the heartiest thanks of the assembly to Mr. White.

## Poetry.

TO DECEMBER 25th, 1868.

Old friend, old Christmas, be welcome still!  
Striding along over frosted hill,  
Cracking and snapping, beneath your feet,  
The crisp branch, and the thin ice sheet,

Thither bearing your berries,—So!  
Sly fellow, I see the mistletoe!—  
Berries glittering and clustering together,  
Berries red, for winter weather!

Welcome, welcome, with prickly leaves,  
With trailing ivy from under the sheaves,  
With glistening laurel from smoothest lawns,  
And cedar that sheltered the gambolling fawns!

Bringing kind words, "good will," and "Peace";  
Rousing sweet memories!—never cease  
The happy thoughts of a far off day  
To cheer the traveller on life's highway,—

Bringing before me the childhood's dwelling,  
With chattering birds of the snow are telling,  
As pleasant greetings, with many a prayer,  
Mingled, and met me everywhere!

When, from the mother's ample store,  
Appeared things rarely seen before;  
And I might touch each sacred treasure,  
Gazing enraptured and at leisure!

Ding dong, ding dong! over every hedge  
Came the feathery flakes, on every ledge,  
Over every mound of the quiet sleeping,  
On every bramble climbing and creeping!

As, near where the blessed dead were lying,  
I heard the words of truth undying!  
And still, half sad, half joyful, pondered  
Over the holy things, and wondered

How Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory,  
Should come, as said the solemn story,  
And for the sinful, like to me,  
Should suffer upon Calvary.

Welcome, old Christmas, welcome still!  
Striding along over frosted hill,  
Bringing good words, and memories fair,  
With your hearty mirth, and your berries rare!

Ashurst Wood.

## Miscellaneous News.

**SAD BOATING CATASTROPHE.**—A melancholy boat accident occurred near Lytham on Tuesday last, by which seven young persons lost their lives. The family of Mr. Sugars, a Manchester merchant, consisting of two grown-up sons and three daughters, with two friends, a brother and sister of the name of Wilson, proceeded from Lytham up the Ribble in a boat to Preston. On their return, and while apparently near home, the boat seems to have capsized, and all seven were drowned. The body of only one of the young ladies has yet been found.

**REMOVAL OF BODIES FROM A BURIAL-GROUND.**—A gentleman who had purchased, under a sale in Chancery, the site of Tottenham Court-road Chapel burial-ground for building purposes, was on Saturday fined 5*l.* and costs, at the Marlborough Police-court, for removing dead bodies without the authority of the Home Secretary. It is as well that it should be generally known that the removal of human remains from unconsecrated ground is a statutable offence, while from consecrated ground it is punishable under the ecclesiastical law.

**THE DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND** had a very narrow escape from a serious accident on Friday evening. It appears that while she was returning in a brougham from Dr. Cumming's chapel, a coal waggoner incautiously touched the horse with his whip, and it set off at an ungovernable speed. The footman, and afterwards the driver, were thrown off their seats, and the carriage-door was broken off by coming into collision with a lamp-post. Ultimately the animal was stopped, and the Duchess, who had fortunately remained in the carriage, got out, and, after inquiring about her servants, walked home to Stafford House.

**CONFEDERATE CRUISERS.**—The English Government is taking very decided and important measures to check further violations of the neutrality laws as regards America. Not only have the Government employed at the dockyard, Sheerness, who volunteered to fit out the Rappahannock as a ship of war for the Confederates been dismissed, but, it is said, the names of those of the crews of the Alabama, Georgia, and Florida, who belonged to the Royal Naval Reserve, have been struck off the list. In the case of the latter will be involved the loss of all pay and pensions, and the offenders will not again be permitted to enter her Majesty's service.

**LABOURERS' AND WORKMEN'S COTTAGES, PENGE.**—Twelve cottages have recently been erected at Penge, below the Crystal Palace, by a benevolent resident, Miss A. Dudin Brown, who, observing the wretched mode in which the large number of labourers in this part were housed, determined to offer some examples of a better kind of home. The outlay has been about 2,400*l.*, and the rents are calculated to pay about 3 per cent. This is only one of a series of good works carried out by Miss Brown in this hamlet; for she made a gift of the land upon which an infant school and teacher's house were erected, and subscribed also to the building fund. Subsequently she erected a large girls' school and house entirely at her own cost, of above 1,200*l.*; and, moreover, the church accommodation being insufficient, she built two new aisles to the church, at a cost of nearly 2,800*l.*—*Builder*.

**THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.**—On Wednesday evening, Mr. William Tallack, secretary to the Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment, delivered a lecture on the above subject, at Maidstone, in the Town Hall, lent by the Mayor for the occasion. The Rev. R. E. Maclellan presided. Allusion was made by the lecturer to the recent local exemplifications of the non-deterrent effect of capital punishment. Thus the murder at Chatham by Burton (executed at

Maidstone last spring) was speedily followed by Holden's crime, and the latter by a third murder in the same town. At Burton's trial there was an objection raised against empannelling any Maidstone men on the jury on account of the known prevalence there of decided opposition to capital punishment. Such a feeling had been repeatedly strengthened by the special opportunities afforded by an assize town for witnessing both the non-deterrent and demoralising effects of the gallows. On the motion of Mr. Frederic Wheeler, a resolution disapproving of capital punishment was carried unanimously in a large audience.

**MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.**—This choir now takes rank with the first musical societies in the metropolis, and is a striking example of the celebrity that may grow out of careful training and intelligent management. Its concerts are largely attended by musical connoisseurs as well as well as the general public, and Mr. Leslie is doing good service by resuscitating many forgotten or neglected works of genius, and placing them, under the most favourable circumstances, before the world. The first concert of the season took place last Wednesday in St. James's Hall, and was well attended. The programme was a varied one—madrigals and unaccompanied part songs—the speciality of the Choir—alternating with pianoforte pieces by Herr Blumner, brilliant solos on the violin by M. Lotto, and Madame Lemmens-Sherrington's florid and finished solo singing. There was a new hunting-song by Henry Smart—most expressive in harmony and in the performance—a new and sweet but rather thin part-song by J. G. Calcott, which was encored; and Spohr's "Ode to St. Cecilia's Day," little known in this country, and though not likely to be highly popular, possessing some of the characteristic excellences of the great composer. We have barely indicated the high range as well as variety of the concert, which was thoroughly appreciated by the audience. For the ensuing concerts various new compositions are promised, including an anthem for an eight-part choir by Professor Sterndale Bennett. At the second concert on February 4, Madame Arabella Goddard is to play.

**COTTAGES FOR THE LABOURING CLASSES AT HIGHGATE.**—The Rev. Josiah Viney, Congregational minister, has recently erected twelve cottages in Highgate at a cost, including the ground, of 2,000*l.* Each cottage contains four rooms, and the average rent is 4*s.* 6*d.* per week. The following general description of the cottages is from a local paper:—

The cottages are twelve in number, and constitute a corner block of two storeys, besides the ground floor. In one corner of the building there is a staircase leading out on to balconies, which run along the whole front of the building, and form entrances for the first and second floors. On each landing is a water-tank, and a closet for each cottage. The whole of the cottages are of the same size and construction; each has a separate entrance, and consists of four rooms—viz., a living-room, ten feet nine inches by ten feet, fitted with range, oven, and cupboard; a kitchen, ten feet by five feet six inches, fitted with fireplace, copper, sink, a receptacle for coals, and a dust-shoot; a bed-room, ten feet by seven feet six inches, and a children's bed-room, eight feet five inches by five feet six inches. The whole of the structure is substantially built, the front with best bricks, gauged, arched, and neatly pointed.

The cottages have lately been taken possession of by the various tenants, the event being celebrated by a substantial supper of roast beef and plum pudding, generously provided by the Rev. Josiah Viney; Mr. Wood, builder, presiding. During the evening the Rev. J. Viney entered the room, and addressed the company assembled, congratulating them on the completion of the work. That there had been no accident during the progress of the building was a matter to him of devout thankfulness. Addressing the tenants, he recommended mutual kindness and forbearance, remarking that his object was to furnish them with healthy dwellings with a good supply of light, fresh air, and water. He did not care whether they were Churchmen or Dissenters, but he hoped there would often arise from them the morning and evening sacrifice of prayer and praise. He concluded by presenting each tenant with a well-executed lithographic print of the building in a gilt frame. It is estimated that the cottages will realise five per cent. on the outlay clear of all expenses. The cottages are all let, and were eagerly sought after.

## Cleanings.

Why are book-keepers like chickens?—Because they have to scratch for a living.

Colonel Crawley's brother officers are subscribing to pay his expenses. Lord Cardigan gives 100*l.*

It is understood that the Charing-cross Railway will be opened on the 1st of January.

The *Shipping Gazette* City article states the loss to the insurance companies, from the late gales, to be as high as from 150,000*l.* to 200,000*l.*

Next year there will be two eclipses of the sun. The first will be on the 5th of May, and the second on October 30.

The divers at the wreck of the Royal Charter are said to have recently obtained 1,200*l.* in sovereigns and a bar of pure gold weighing 9*lb.*

A gentleman observing that he had fallen asleep during a sermon preached by the bishop, a wag remarked, "that it must have been Bishop the composer."

The Temperance Hall at Elgin, after having been a general public hall, a preaching-room, and a dancing-room, has at length been purchased by one who intends to convert it into a spirit-store!

"You have not a drop of the great Napoleon's blood in your veins," said testy old Jerome one day



in a pet to his nephew the Emperor. "Well," replied Louis Napoleon, "at all events I have his whole family on my shoulders."

Two countrymen seeing a naturalist in a field collecting insects, one of them asked the other, "Vot's that ere gemman?" "Vy, he's a naturalist." "Vot's that?" "Vy, von who catches gnats, to be sure."

The late American Judge Peters has left behind him some good puns, among which is the following:—When on the district court bench, he observed to Judge Washington that one of the witnesses had a vegetable head. "How so?" was the inquiry. "He has carrotty hair, reddish cheeks, a turn-up nose, and a sage look."

An old gentleman who used to frequent a certain coffee-house, being unwell, thought he might make so free as to steal an opinion concerning his case; and one day took an opportunity of asking one of the faculty, who sat in the same box with him, what he should take for such a complaint. "I'll tell you," said the doctor, sarcastically, "you should take advice."

**A REAL WANT.**—There is a chance out in Vermont for a very good boy. A farmer applied to the orphan asylum for one who was smart, active, brave, tractable, prompt, industrious, clean, pious, intelligent, good-looking, reserved, and modest. The superintendent referred him to the New Jerusalem. —*American paper.*

The *Englishwoman's Magazine* for this month says that the number of female applicants for examination in the papers which have been prepared for the local examinations of the University of Cambridge is so large as to be almost embarrassing.

**THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.**—The *Insurance Record* observes that several offices in the City are accepting proposals for an insurance to a large amount on the life of the Empress of the French. The risk is being divided among French and English offices, and the total amount of the insurance is 200,000*l.*

**MARRIED IN A RAILWAY CAR.**—The novel performance of celebrating the nuptials of two loving couples took place on the south-west branch of the Pacific Railroad on the 15th inst. The passenger train started from Rolla at the usual hour, with the bridal parties and a host of friends on board. After the train got under motion, Mr. Dobney Carter was married to Miss Mary Dunivan, all of Rolla. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. R. D. Gaddy, at half-past ten a.m. At half-past eleven, a.m. Mr. J. N. Dunivan, father of the young bride mentioned above, was married to Miss Mary E. Campbell, while the train was still in motion at the rate of twenty miles an hour. —*St. Louis Union.*

**ANECDOTE OF THE LATE SIR ROBERT PEEL.**—A certain distinguished Irish law functionary, and Conservative member of Parliament, who was on the most intimate terms with Sir Robert Peel, calling upon him one day, made his way into Sir Robert Peel's study without being announced. Seeing the Premier on his knees, he stood still for a moment, and then, as noiselessly as he could, retreated into the outer apartment. After a short period had elapsed, Sir Robert Peel joined him; and conscious that he had been discovered, remarked—"You were, perhaps, surprised to find me at prayer, but the truth is, dear —, I find that in reality the whole weight of the affairs of this people is laid upon my shoulders, which are too weak to sustain it. I have, therefore, been to the only Source of strength for help, and I find it continually requisite, and only to be obtained there."

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE.—To all persons who suffer from bilious headaches, disordered stomach, biliousness or flatulency, these Pills are most strongly recommended as the safest, best, and quickest mode of obtaining ease, without weakening or irritating the nervous system. Holloway's Pills are especially useful in clearing away any excess of bile, which usually produces fever, unless remedial measures be adopted without delay. In asthma, bronchitis, and congestion of the lungs they may be relied upon for removing all danger. And, by purifying and regulating the circulation, they effectually prevent relapses. By rousing the liver to a fair secretion of bile, and quickly carrying it from the system, these Pills ward off low spirits, listlessness, and those distressing feelings often called "nervous."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

### BIRTHS.

**JENNINGS.**—Dec. 16, at No. 6, Mildmay-park-terrace, N., the wife of John Jennings, of a daughter.  
**THEOBALD.**—Dec. 21, at Gloster Lodge, Hendon, Mrs. Morell Theobald, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

**BRUCE—COWIE.**—Oct. 16, at Clayton Congregational Church, by the Rev. W. Harcus, John Albert Bruce, Esq., of Kapunda, South Australia, to Harriet Ellen, eldest daughter of Henry Cowie, Esq., of Adelaide.  
**SMITH—SUTCLIFFE.**—Dec. 16, at Airedale College Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. W. Kingsland, Frederick Smith, Esq., of Halifax, to Mar ha, eldest daughter of Wilson Sutcliffe, Esq., of Bowling, near Bradford.  
**COSSEY—CHENERY.**—Dec. 16, at the Baptist Chapel, Claxton, by Mr. D. Pegg, Mr. Charles Cossey, to Miss Mary Ann Chenery, both of Brooke, Norfolk.  
**SCHOFIELD—MAPLESON.**—Dec. 17, at the New Church, Square-road, Halifax, by the Rev. W. Roberts, Mr. Joseph Schofield, to Miss Hannah Mapleson, both of Halifax.

### DEATHS.

**KNIGHT.**—Dec. 9, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, Mr. Richard Knight, of Combmartin, Devon, the beloved father of the Rev. W. Knight, of Littlehampton, Sussex, universally respected.  
**BEDFORD.**—Dec. 17, at Great Snoring, aged seventy-four, the Rev. William Bedford, for more than forty years the beloved pastor of the Congregational Church, Narborough, Leicestershire.  
**ALLIOTT.**—Dec. 20, at Acock's-green, near Birmingham, in the fifty-ninth year of his age, the Rev. Richard Alliot, LL.D., pastor of the Congregational Church there, and Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Spring-hill College, Birmingham.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 16.

### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£27,566,245	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,634,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	12,916,345
	£27,566,245		£27,566,245

### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,558,000	Government Securities	£10,762,350
Reserve .....	3,226,953	Other Securities ..	21,443,719
Public Deposits ..	9,103,738	Notes .....	7,765,740
Other Deposits .....	13,265,068	Gold & Silver Coin	759,229
Seven Day and other Bills .....	582,259		
	£40,731,018		£40,731,018

Dec. 17, 1868.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

## Markets.

### CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Dec. 21.

There was but a small show of English wheat on offer this morning, but liberal arrivals from abroad have come to hand, especially from Baltic ports. There were few buyers attending the market, and sales progressed slowly, and the prices of this day's week were barely obtained for English wheat. There has been very little animation to-day in the trade for foreign wheat, and there was no alteration in value for old samples. Flour sold to a moderate extent at last week's rates. White peas and beans dull sale, at last Monday's prices, and grey peas 1s per qr lower. Barley of all descriptions sells slowly, at about the reduced rates of last week. There was only a moderate arrival of foreign oats for the past week, and just maintained the currency of Monday last. There are but few cargoes for orders on the coast, and quotations remain without change.

**BREAD.**—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

### BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Dec. 21.

About an average supply of foreign beasts and sheep was on sale in the market to-day, and the trade was dull, at barely late quotations. Some of the foreign sheep were exhibited in prime condition. From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts fresh up this morning were seasonably good, whilst there were about 500 on offer left over from Monday last. There was a very inactive demand for most breeds; at Thursday's decline in the quotations. The top figure for beef was 5s per 5lbs, and a total clearance was not effected. The arrivals from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire comprised 1,500 shorthorns, &c.; from Norfolk, 300 Scots and crosses; from other parts of England, 200 various breeds; from Scotland, 80 Scots; and from Ireland, 150 oxen and heifers. The supply of sheep was only moderate. Good and prime Downs and half-breeds met a slow sale, and prices were fully supported. The highest figure realised was 6s per 5lbs. Other breeds moved off heavily, at last Monday's decline in prices. The general quality of the stock was good. The number of calves on sale was small, and the trade ruled slow, at the quotations of last Monday—Thursday's advance not being supported. The top figure was 5s per 5lbs. Pigs were in sluggish request, at the currencies of last week.

### Per 5lbs, to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	6 to 3	10	Prime Southdowns	5 10 to 6 0
Second quality	4	0 to 4	4	Lamb	0 0 to 0 0
Prime large oxen	4	6 to 4	10	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 to 4 8
Prime Scots, &c.	4	10 to 5	0	Prime small	4 10 to 5 0
Coarse inf. sheep	4	0 to 4	6	Large hogs	3 6 to 4 0
Second quality	4	8 to 5	2	Nocton, porkers	4 2 to 4 6
Pr. coarse woolled	4	4 to 5	8		

Stuckling calves, 15s to 20s. Quarter-old store pigs, 20s to 25s each.

### NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Dec. 21.

Fair average supplies of town and country-killed meat are on sale at these markets to-day. For beef and mutton there was a fair demand, at our quotations; but veal and pork changed hands slowly.

### Per 5lbs by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2	10 to 3	2	Small pork	4 0 to 4 4
Middling ditto	3	4 to 3	8	Inf. mutton	3 6 to 3 10
Prime large do.	3	10 to 4	0	Middling ditto	4 0 to 4 4
Do. small do.	4	2 to 4	4	Prime ditto	4 6 to 4 8
Large pork	3	6 to 3	10	Veal	3 10 to 4 8

### PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, Dec. 22.

**TEA.**—The amount of business done has been to a limited extent, but the few dealings reported have been at fully late prices.

**SUGAR.**—The amount of business done has been to a limited extent, owing to the high rates demanded by holders. Good grocery qualities generally sustain former rates. In the refined market only a moderate business has been transacted, and quotations are without material change.

**COFFEE.**—The demand in this market for colonial descriptions has been moderately active, and quotations have been well supported for superior qualities. The stocks on hand compared with those of the same period of last year show a slight increase.

**RICE.**—Business has been of a limited character, at about late prices.

**PROVISIONS, Monday, Dec. 21.**—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 2,032 firkins butter, and 3,001 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 19,289 casks butter, and 400 bales and 133 boxes of bacon. In the Irish butter market, as usual at this period of the year, but little business was transacted last week; any sales effected were at full prices, holders being very firm. Foreign meat a good sale, and prices advanced 2s per cwt on the quotations of last week. In the bacon market there was a steady demand, and prices advanced 2s per cwt; sales of best Waterford made at 5½s on board for shipment.

**POTATOES.**—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Dec. 21.—The imports of foreign potatoes continue very small, but the arrivals of home-grown produce are of fair average extent. For nearly all qualities there is a moderate demand, and prices generally are steadily supported. Yorkshire Regents 75s to 8s, ditto Flukes 90s to 100s, ditto Rocks 60s to 70s, Perth, Fortar, and Fifeshire Regents 60s to 70s, ditto Rocks 50s to 60s, Kent and Essex Regents 70s to 80s per ton.

**WOOL, Monday, Dec. 21.**—There is rather more wool on sale at our market than of late. Owing chiefly to the high range in the value of money, the demand for all kinds is very inactive; nevertheless, prices ruled about stationary. The enquiry for export to the continent is much restricted.

**FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, Dec. 19.**—The trade for flax continues very firm, at the full rates of this day week; Riga commands 51½ to 55½, St. Petersburg 43½ to 50½, Egyptian 21½ to 55½ per ton. In hemp a very moderate business is doing, at 32½ to 41½ per ton for clean Russian descriptions. Jute is steady, at 21½ to 35½ per ton. In coir goods about an average business is doing, at late rates.

**SEEDS, Monday, Dec. 21.**—The trade for cloverseed continues quiet; more samples are showing, but buyers defer

purchasing at present, and only occasional sales can be noted. In red cloverseed, only fine descriptions of new English found buyers. Foreign qualities do not meet attention. White cloverseed and trefoil are without change in value. Canaryseed fully maintains the advance noted last Monday.

**OIL, Monday, Dec. 21.**—An increased amount of business has been transacted in linseed oil, at 35s per cwt on the spot. Rape and oilseeds are somewhat lower in price, foreign refined being now quoted at 41s, and brown at 37s 6d to 3s per cwt. Olive, coconut, palm, and fish oils are very dull, and drooping in value. French spirits of turpentine have advanced to 72s per cwt. Ro-in and tar are a dull inquiry. American refined petroleum 2s to 2½d per gallon.

**COALS, Monday, Dec. 21.**—Market busy, at last day's rates. Hetton's 2's, Haswell 2's, Hartlepool 19s 6d, East Hartlepool 19s 6d, Tees 19s 6d, Hetton Lyons 17s 6d, Eden Main 18s 6d, Holywell 17s 9d, Harton 18s, Hartley's 1s 6d, Tanfield 15s, Norton Anthracite, 22s.—Fresh arrivals, 59; left 21; total 69.

**TALLOW, Monday, Dec. 21.**—The tallow trade is quiet to-day, and at barely stationary prices. P.Y.C. is quoted at 40s 9d per cwt on the spot. Town tallow is selling at 40s 3d per cwt net cash. Rough fat commands 2s 1d per cwt.

## Advertisements.

## PRIZE DESIGNS.

"As affording the most striking contrast, Mr. Benson shows with these a fresh exhibition of modern watches, with cases made from prize designs at the South Kensington Museum, some of which are fine specimens of engraving."—*Times*, Sept. 15, 1862.

Chronometer, duplex, lever, horizontal, repeaters, centre seconds, keyless, split seconds, and every description of watch, adapted to all climates. Benson's Illustrated Pamphlet on Watches (free by post for two stamps) contains a short history of watchmaking, with prices, from 1 to 200 guineas. It serves as a guide in the purchase of a watch, and enables those who live in any part of the world, to select a watch, and have it sent safe by post. Prize Medal and Honourable Mention, Classes 33 and 15. J. W. Benson, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1749.

Watch and Clock Maker by Special Warrant of Appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

TEETH!



TEETH!

## MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

**OSTEO EIDON** (by Her Majesty's Letters Patent), Artificial Teeth, from One Tooth to a complete Set, without pain or extracting Stumps, at half the usual charges, by

MESSRS. GABRIEL,  
THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS  
(Diploma, 1815).

27 HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;  
34, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON;  
134, DUKE STREET, LIVERPOOL; and  
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

References to Patients. Gabriel's "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis or free by post. Diploma, 1815. One of the firm is constantly engaged in visiting Invalids (Town and Country) whose health will not permit them to visit the Dentist. No extra fee if within ten miles of either Establishment.

All Letters and Appointments receive prompt attention.

## TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street (Established 1820), direct attention to a new and patented improvement in Artificial Teeth, by which a GUM-COLOURED ENAMELLED BASE is substituted for the metals and soft-absorbing agents generally used. By this system all Stumps and Loose Teeth are carefully protected, avoiding extraction or any painful operation. They are self-adhesive, defy detection and insure an amount of comfort hitherto unattainable without the use of metals and unsightly ligatures. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 9, 7, 10, and 15 guineas. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

## THIS SEASON'S FASHIONS in DRESS.

Ladies previous to purchasing are respectfully invited to inspect our stock, consisting of a large assortment of the latest NOVELTIES in DRESS of British and Foreign Manufacture.

**RICH, DURABLE, AND CHEAP SILKS.**  
All the newest Materials and Styles in JACKETS, CLAN and PAISLEY SHAWLS.

**MADE-UP DRESSES** in all the NEW DESIGNS.  
MERINOES, WINSEYS, RIBBONS, GLOVES, FURS, DRAPEY, CLOTHS, &c.

**DRAPERS, MILLINERS, and DRESSMAKERS**, supplied with cut lengths at the lowest trade price.  
Matching orders carefully and promptly attended to.  
Patterns post free.

Closed on Saturdays at Four o'clock.

**JAMES SPENCE and Co., WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SILK MERCHANTS, DRAPERS, 77, and 78, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON, E.C.**

## SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

## ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

\* Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSBY and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

## QUININE.—The MEDICAL PROFESSION,

the LANCET, Dr. Ha-sall, and others, recommend "Waters' Quinine Wine" as an excellent and simple stimulant. Manufactured only by ROBERT WATERS, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London, E.C. Sold by Grocers, Italian Warehousemen, and others, at 30s. a dozen.

Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

## IF THIS SHOULD MEET THE EYE

of any one troubled with Wind in the Stomach, Indigestion, or Biliousness, take Page Woodcock's WIND PILLS. Eleven years of success have proved them of sterling merit. Of all Medicine Vendors at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 6d.; or free by post for fourteen or thirty-three stamps from PAGE D. WOODCOCK, Chemist, Lincoln.



**"I WISH I HAD WAITED!"**

"This is so much nicer than the one I have!" is the exclamation of every one who has bought any of the **CHEAP IMITATIONS of Harper Twelvetees' Universal Clothes Wringer** (Ives' Patent). This excellent Machine will wring Blankets, Counterpanes, Sheets, &c., easier, quicker, and more thoroughly than by the ordinary old-fashioned wrist-straining and Clothes-destroying process. Sold by Harper Twelvetees' Agents everywhere. Price Thirty Shillings, Carriage free from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E., if a Post-office order be forwarded for the amount.

**SIXPENCE PER DAY!**

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